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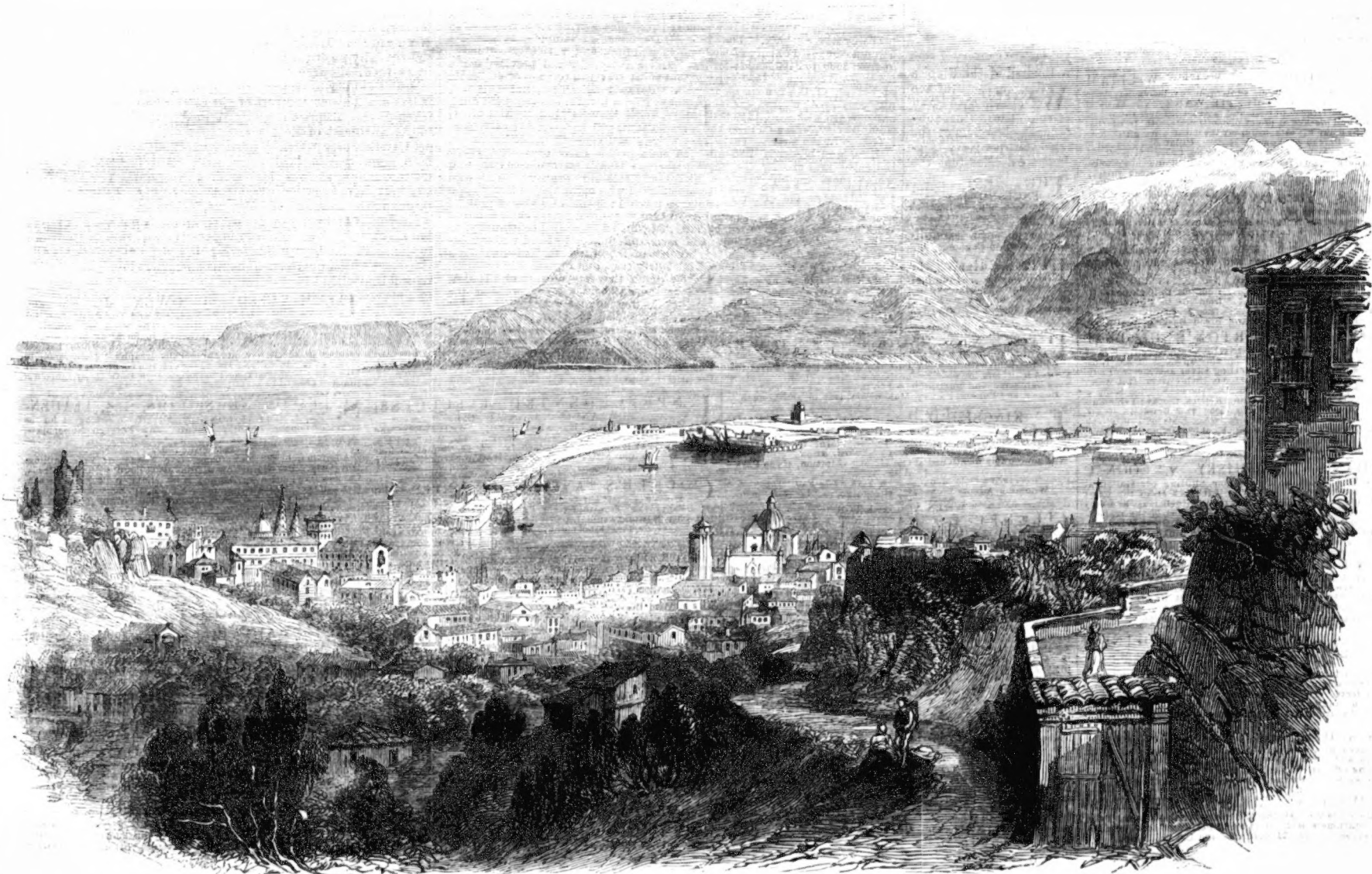
TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE question of "Turkey and its destiny" is still foremost in the public mind, and, as fresh news arrives day by day from the scenes of the recent massacres, the Sultan's best friends desert him, so that, before long, he will really have no one to say a good word for him in this country, except Mr. David Urquhart, whose praises of the Turkish Government have always kept pace with its increasing corruptness. Some weeks must elapse before we receive any news of the expedition which, on arriving in Syria, will, in all probability, find no one to fight, though the French, for their own credit, will be sure to get up some sort of military performance, if only a *razzia* among the Lebanon hills. There will be no disturbances to quell, and, unless the French General undertakes to make war generally upon the Druses, there will be nothing for him to do but to fancy he is seeing justice done upon the prime authors of the massacres, who, according to the custom in such cases, will in all probability escape. A good many offenders, doubtless not unworthy of such a fate, will already have been executed; but on the arrival of the European Commissioners "Whom shall we bowstring?" will still be the cry. One of the guiltiest of the guilty is evidently Osman Bey, or "Othman Beg," as those who affect the style of professed Orientalists call him; but "Othman" represents himself as having simply carried out instructions from above. "Obedience," this sublime hypocrite is reported to have said, "is the first duty of a soldier"—that is to say, even though he be commanded to disarm a portion of his fellow-subjects under a solemn promise of protection, and then leave them to be massacred before his eyes. A French missionary from Damascus, writing in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, hints that Osman Bey is nothing less than the accomplice of the Sultan in the bloody crimes that have been perpetrated in Syria; and, whether this be true or not, it is difficult indeed to believe that Mohammedans, high or low, can feel any particular indignation at the murder of Christians. Our position in connection with Turkey just now is a most difficult one. It seems to be agreed on all hands that the sick man must be allowed to die a natural death; and, as the question

of inheritance cannot be settled without a worse fight than any of the great European Powers are willing to engage in, it is thought advisable to prolong the patient's wretched existence by all possible means. Fortunately, amputation is the only remedy. He has lost Algeria, and virtually Egypt. Syria must follow, and thus the dying carcass is relieved of one limb after another until at last—as happened to the Eastern empire when province after province was being conquered from it by the Turks—nothing but the heart, which is Constantinople, will remain. The ultimate fate of Constantinople can scarcely be predicted; but we may safely say that, if it were attacked by no matter what Power, Abdul Medjid would not die fighting, like the last Palæologus, beneath the walls.

One point well worthy of attention in the missionary's communication to the *Revue des Deux Mondes* is the stress he lays upon our loss of prestige in the East, consequent, in the first instance, on the temporary success of the Indian mutiny. The bombardment of Jeddah impressed the Turks with some notion that our strength had not altogether left us; but, on the whole, we have behaved in Turkey, since the Crimean War, with less energy than might have been expected from a second-rate Power, and, according to the writer in the *Revue*, have constantly suffered Englishmen in the East to be insulted with impunity. Of the truth of this statement ample corroboration may be found in letters that have been sent from time to time by our own Consuls to the newspapers during the last four years. In fact, all our recent policy has been to let Turkey alone; and of late she has not even had Lord Stratford to bully her occasionally into propriety. It was thought our interference would weaken this esteemed land. As it is, we have not only weakened our own influence—for among Orientals forbearance means timidity—but may even have helped to invite these hideous massacres. We are now going to appear in Turkey in an altogether subordinate position to France, which will make us look more than ever like a second-rate Power. Russia—not without motive, we may be sure—sends no soldiers at all. We are not sure that this is not better than sending a handful of marines, when France is to be represented by a large and well-equipped army.

Every one wishes well to Garibaldi, from Lord Palmerston to the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, who has been lecturing in his most amusing style on Europe and its affairs, and who is prepared to back the Liberator against the Pope and all his supporters, including even the Irish brigade, of whom the facetious divine met a large party on his travels with no other baggage than "one pocket-handkerchief and a few cold potatoes" between them. Unfortunately, however, no one seems to understand what Garibaldi, after his landing in Calabria, proposes to do. We cannot fancy, for our part, that this experienced old soldier carries any definite programme with him further than that he is prepared to do his best for Italy, and, if possible, to liberate the entire peninsula—thus completing the real or pretended design of Louis Napoleon. We suppose, for instance, that he would be influenced to some extent by the attitude of the French Emperor, of whom nothing can ever be predicted as a matter of certainty; but, with the aid of Sardinia and the countenance of France, he would doubtless not hesitate to attempt the expulsion of the Austrians from Venetia—who in giving it up would, loss of prestige apart, merely get rid of what is now only a source of weakness. But, unless he wishes to raise himself up enemies in all parts of Europe, Garibaldi will do well not to attack Austria through the Hungarians. The Hungarian has nothing whatever to do with the Italian question, and, if we except Russia, all Europe, including Hungary itself, has an interest in the maintenance of the Austrian empire, which is the only possible bulwark against the encroachments of our northern friend in the direction of the Danube. Austria, broken up into a number of little states—perhaps even republics—would be swallowed piecemeal. Besides, in Hungary it is only a party—that of the Magyar aristocracy—which desires separation from Austria. In Venetia the case is quite different, and, if Garibaldi confines his operations to Italy, and if Rome first, and afterwards all Venice, rise at his call, we in England can only wish him that success which we always wish to the endeavours of an enlightened and devoted patriot.



MESSINA.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor and Empress were to leave Paris on Thursday on a visit to the new departments of Savoy and Nice. Marshal Vaillant will be intrusted with the care of the Imperial Prince during the absence of their Majesties. The Marshal will also sit at the Council of Ministers.

The Emperor's fête passed off last week with more than usual éclat. A French man-of-war has left Toulon to be placed at the service of the Bey of Tunis, who intends going to Algiers and staying there during the visit the Emperor and Empress of the French will pay to the great Mediterranean colony of France.

A letter from M. Carnot and M. Garnier Pages, formerly leaders of the Republican party, advises the Republicans not to abstain from the coming municipal elections in France.

Lord Clarendon and Mr. Cobden dined with the Emperor at St. Cloud on Tuesday.

SPAIN.

The *Espana* expresses the opinion that the "golden dream" of its Ministerial contemporaries, of seeing Spain elevated to the rank of a Great Power, is not likely, on account of the opposition of England and Prussia, to become a reality.

The Pope's Nuncio had gone to San Ildefonso, and had an interview with the Queen and the President of the Council of Ministers.

The Madrid journals of the 14th publish a letter from the Pope to the Cardinal Archbishops of Toledo and Seville, and to numerous other prelates, thanking them in warm terms "for the new and marked proof of their love and piety which they have given him by sending a donation to relieve his great distress."

A Royal decree in the *Gazette* raises, as had been expected, the Duke de Osuna, Minister Plenipotentiary in Russia, to the grade of Ambassador.

Colonel Perrote, of the Spanish army, had been authorised to accompany the French expedition to Syria.

ITALY.

SARDINIA.

Baron Winspeare has arrived at Turin as Ambassador from the King of Naples.

The *Official Gazette* publishes a circular addressed by the Minister of the Interior to the Governors and Intendants-General in reference to the formation of volunteer corps to join the National Guard.

ROME.

We are informed that one-half, at least, of the troops of the Duke of Modena, which hitherto were believed to be all on Austrian soil, have entered the service of the Pope. The enlistment for the Papal army going on in the States of the Church seems to have given rise to disorders, which had to be suppressed by the troops.

A letter from Rome in the *Patrie* contains the following passage:—"It is reported that four companies of Irish have mutinied at Spoleto, and have been shut up in the fortress. It is stated that these companies are very much dreaded by the people of the country. You are aware that almost all the engagements are for six months. Now, if we reflect that the volunteers complain of being very indifferently welcomed here by the Government itself, which hastens as soon as they arrive to send them to a distance from Rome, and to quarter them in dull places among a boorish population—if one reflects, I say, that these volunteers are exposed to a thousand privations, and especially to excessive heat, and that they have hitherto entirely lacked that glory and danger which alone feed and sustain military zeal, it is evidently extremely doubtful whether they will be disposed to enter into a new engagement."

THE GERMAN CONFEDERATION.

The *Nord* asserts that the suggestions made by Prussia for the reorganisation of the army of the Confederation are strongly disapproved by the secondary German States. The Prussian journals, and the liberal portion of the German press generally, advocate the change, but with very little effect. The smaller States refuse to abdicate so much of their independent sovereign power as they believe they would resign in giving up the command of their military forces to one or both of the great Powers. They consider the concession as the first step towards their political extinction.

AUSTRIA.

A committee of twenty-one members of the Council of the Empire have adopted, by 18 against 3 votes, the political programme of the Hungarian members for all the provinces. The Ministers have given their formal adhesion to that programme. The committee, "acknowledging the justice of the reasons adduced in the memorandum of the Archduke Maximilian against the reduction of the Austrian Navy, proposed by the Minister of Finance," has unanimously decided that the marine budget may be increased by 1,000,000 florins.

The National Hungarian fête has passed off in perfect order, in consequence of the wise measure adopted by General Benedek to intrust the maintenance of public order altogether to the municipality of Pesth, whose members, on this condition, undertook to guarantee the tranquillity of the town. The Primate, who has placed himself altogether on the national side, was loudly cheered by the people while heading the religious procession, in which the fête mainly consisted. General Benedek took part in the procession, and afterwards entertained the principal inhabitants at a grand dinner, to which the Primate was invited.

A telegram of Saturday from Vienna says "that the great Powers, in conformity with the wish of the English Cabinet, have agreed to discontinue all further negotiations for including Spain in the number of the great Powers."

RUSSIA.

A telegram from St. Petersburg says:—"The greatest anxiety is manifested here as to the state of the national finances, which are reported to be in a very unsatisfactory position. It is even rumoured in several directions that the empire is on the eve of bankruptcy. Much discontent prevails in the Russian army, in consequence of the soldiers not receiving their pay. The Imperial Guards alone have been five months without money. Two hundred ships are assembled at Nicolaiëff for the transport of troops to Turkey."

The Empress Dowager of Russia arrived at Peterhoff on the 27th ult. from her journey abroad. Her Majesty was received on her arrival by the Emperor her son, surrounded by the other members of the Imperial family, a numerous Court, and a brilliant Staff.

The arrival of the Emperor of Russia at Warsaw is fixed for the early part of September. His Majesty will stop at Wilna, to inaugurate the railway from that place to St. Petersburg.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The Sultan visited the Porte on Thursday week and delivered a speech to the Ministers, expressing his resolution to punish the Syrian offenders most severely, and also his intention of reducing the vast list of sinecure high functionaries, and effecting economy generally.

Sir Henry Bulwer is said to have made representations to the Sultan respecting the dangers which threaten the Turkish empire, and to have again advised the recall of Kibrisli Pacha from Roumelia, and the transfer of his mission to Omar Pacha.

The Sultan is about to address another autograph letter to Queen Victoria and the Emperor Napoleon on the subject of Syria, expressing his desire to have the sole punishment of offenders.

The news of massacres at Basleeb has been confirmed.

The paper money is to remain in circulation till July next.

SYRIA.

Advices from Damascus to the 5th inst. state that Fuad Pacha had surrounded the Lebanon with troops, and threatened fire and sword if the Druse Sheiks did not surrender in two days. Twenty had already been taken, and nearly 800 other important arrests had been made.

1000 camel-loads of plundered property had been recovered. The following extracts from a letter, dated "Beyrout, July 28," will be found interesting. They go to show that Fuad Pacha is doing his duty:—

It was on the 17th of July that his Excellency Fuad Pacha arrived here with his suite on board the Turkish steamer *Taif*. The vessel had no sooner anchored than the French Rear-Admiral sent an officer to compliment the Pacha, and when the latter had landed he waited on him with the French Consul at the Governor's House. Early the following day the English, Russian, and Sardinian Consuls also paid their respects to Fuad Pacha.

Abro Effendi, who occupies a high post in the Foreign Office at Constantinople, was soon after sent to visit the wounded and sick in the care of the Sister of Charity, and to hand to the superior of the congregation of St. Vincent de Paul 11,000 piasters, with a letter of thanks from Fuad Pacha for the care and attention shown to the sufferers.

The same day a mixed commission was named to relieve the wounded and distressed Maronites in the vicinity of this town, and Moustaa Pacha and Franco Effendi were sent to Sidon by Fuad Pacha to establish a similar commission there, taking with them 10,000 piasters to the Sisters of Charity for the relief of the poor mountaineers.

On the 19th a large number of the inhabitants of Beyrout met together at the Governor's house to hear the Sultan's firman read. The courtyard was crowded with people. The civil and military authorities and the suite of Fuad Pacha surrounded his Excellency, while a secretary read aloud the original firman. A native functionary then read a translation in Arabic. Next followed a proclamation of Fuad Pacha to the Syrians. Both firman and proclamation appeared to be well received by the people, to whom an Arabic translation of them, which had been printed, was afterwards distributed.

Soon after the termination of this ceremony Fuad Pacha, with his suite, took possession of a camp which had been prepared for them a short distance from the town. Faik Bey, one of the aides-de-camp, was sent to Damascus to bring Ahmed Pacha to Beyrout; another aide-de-camp being sent to Aleppo with strict injunctions to Mohammed Pacha to use every effort to keep the town quiet. Khourchid Pacha also left for Latakia, to inquire into the state of the country and report to the Pacha.

On the 20th measures were taken for holding a court-martial on those officers or soldiers who were compromised in the outbreak at Deir-el-Kamar. Fuad Pacha declared that the reconciliation between the Druses and Maronites should not be a shelter for those who had been guilty of murder, destruction, and plunder; but that justice should take its course notwithstanding the treaty between the two tribes. More troops arrived to-day, and were immediately disembarked.

On the 21st Fuad Pacha appointed commissioners to inquire into the losses sustained by foreigners, and to consider and report upon their claims. Several regimental officers of Deir-el-Kamar were arrested and lodged in prison to await their trial by court-martial.

On the 22nd Fuad Pacha reviewed all the troops in the presence of the Consuls in uniform, and of the principal Europeans here. The sight seemed to make a great impression on the mountaineers. Immediately afterwards Halim Pacha started for Damascus with two battalions, and Fuad Pacha rode with him a part of the way. Two other battalions afterwards left for the same town, and one battalion was sent to Sidon, with fifty thousand piasters for the relief of the sufferers. In the evening Ahmed Pacha, the ex-Governor of Damascus, arrived. He was very coldly received by Fuad Pacha, whom he implored not to go to Damascus, or he would be killed by the populace; but Fuad Pacha coolly told him that he would order all insurgents to be shot down, and would, if necessary, fight with his own hands to uphold the Sultan's authority. After this interview, Ahmed Pacha was submitted to an examination, and his answers not being satisfactory, his sword was taken from him, and he was sent under arrest to Constantinople. The palace at Deir-el-Kamar, which formerly belonged to the late Emir Beshir, but is now Government property, has been set apart by Fuad Pacha as a permanent asylum for the widows and orphans, and his Excellency has named a committee for making the necessary arrangements.

Admiral Martin arrived on the 24th, and was received on the following day by Fuad Pacha with all the honours.

On the 25th Ahmed Effendi, Interpreter of the Province; Vassil Effendi, Khiaha of Khourchid Pacha; and Mustapha Chakir Effendi, the Kaimacan of Deir-el-Kamar, were arrested; and Khourchid Pacha was sent to Cyprus to wait for the first packet to Constantinople.

After naming Admiral Moustapha Pacha Governor ad interim of Sidon, Fuad Pacha left Beyrout for Damascus on the 27th inst., accompanied by a large body of troops. He will leave detachments all along the road from Beyrout to Damascus, and will fix his headquarters between the two towns. He declares that he will burn Damascus if the culprits are not delivered up.

The commission named by Fuad Pacha for the relief of the poor has its time fully occupied. It has installed about 600 families at the lazaretto, and is actively alleviating the sufferings of the poor.

A terrible picture of the sufferings of the Christians is conveyed in the following letter from Beyrout, dated August 8:—

On Saturday afternoon, about six o'clock, the first caravan of Christians who had escaped from the massacres in Damascus arrived in Beyrout; and a more heartrending sight—one which made men weep like women, filling them at the same time with an almost irresistible craving for revenge—was probably never beheld. They had left Damascus on Thursday at noon—a column composed chiefly of women and children, and variously estimated at from 2000 to 3400 souls; for the Turkish authorities had provided cattle for the conveyance of 1500 persons, but many travelled on foot or on beasts of burden of their own or friends. Parched with thirst, not half fed, unwashed, with clothes unchanged for nearly a month, choked with dust, and covered with flies, they fled hither, under heavens glowing like brass, from the city, which, if it be the most ancient, will henceforth be the most infamous in the world. There were widows and orphans whose husbands, fathers, and brethren had all been slain before their eyes with every indignity and cruelty the most barbarous fanaticism could devise, and whose most comely maidens had been sold to gratify the brutal lust of filthy Arabs. Nearly all were afflicted with ophthalmia; five women had died on the journey, and one was taken in labour. Babies might be seen striving to suck food from breasts that were dried up. Young children were so dirty, so disfigured by sores, on which flies settled continually, as to be loathsome to look upon. Old men and women tottered under doors, and sank down exhausted, helpless of the crowd that pressed upon them, looking like so many bundles of dirty rags, and incapable of reaching out their hands to take the water for which they famished, or of crawling to the shelter provided for them by the authorities at Beyrout in three khans. The streets leading from the Damascus road were thronged with mules, shambling horses, and asses, all huddled together, and rendering the condition of the fugitives all the more painful. The multitudes rained down blows right and left upon the cattle; and from the statements made of their brutality on the journey it required no great effort to believe that they would have beaten the "infidel dogs" committed to their keeping even more lustily, while it was difficult to say how far the curses and execrations which filled the air were confined to the animals, how far they were intended to apply to those of whom Moslem vengeance had been defrauded. In the hells between the cursings arose the piteous cries of babes, and here and there the wailings of women—Christian Rachels weeping for their children, and "refusing to be comforted, because they are not." But, generally speaking, the grief was too deep-seated, too hopeless, for lamentation. Those who had wept the loss of their nearest and dearest relatives had no tears left for their own sufferings; and, although they had fled from the city of death, they exhibited an apathy and indifference which appeared to indicate that all which rendered life valuable had been snatched from them, leaving them to pursue their melancholy and dreary pilgrimage ever accompanied by the memory of the horrible scenes they had witnessed. The living may be pardoned in this case for envying the peace and oblivion of the tomb, bloody as may have been the path to it.

Beneath the scorching sun of Syria, after a twelve hours' journey during the hottest part of the day, and amid a bustling confusion of the streets, the fugitives remained—many with a child at the breast and two others strapped in front upon the mule—until they could be got one by one into the khan. Now and then might be seen groups of young children suspended in what looked very much like orange-chests slung across a horse. These were all that remained of a family. They have no protection, no refuge save in public charity. At last the fugitives were got into the khan, which may be described as a square courtyard, surrounded on all sides by a two-storied structure, a portion of the upper-floor being carried on arcades running round the courtyard. By this means a single line of chambers is obtained on the ground floor, and a double line on the upper one. Between the two lines of chambers in this last runs a passage, into which the doors and windows open. The chambers are about eight feet square and ten feet high, with a number of inmates generally averaging ten. The few things saved from pillage—a carpet, quilted coverlet, leather water-bottle, and narghile, with, perhaps, a few articles of clothing, are spread out, and, for the first time for weeks, the fugitives sleep in complete security, and with a sense of safety. But their destitution is complete. Nothing but bread have they tasted since they fled for safety to the Castle of Damascus, now a month ago, and even of bread they did not always get sufficient to appease their hunger.

The fugitives are lodged in the three khans situated in the most crowded parts of Beyrout, which I have visited, and in a Greek convent. One of the khans, about sixty feet square, is beside the hotel where I am staying. The windows of my room overlook it, and I have only to lift my eyes from this letter to behold the misery, destitution, and physical sufferings of upwards of four hundred human beings. Through the open windows come

the cries of children blinded by ophthalmia, teased by flies, mosquitoes, and vermin, and almost maddened by sunstroke. There come also occasionally, when food is served out, the angry and menacing expostulations of Turkish officials. I trust the noise has no other cause or accompaniment.

AMERICA.

The reception of the Prince of Wales at Fredericton on the 4th inst. was most enthusiastic. On the 6th inst. his Royal Highness received an address from the Government of New Brunswick, and inaugurated the New Park. He afterwards attended the ball at the Government House. The Prince was to have left Fredericton on the 7th inst. His Royal Highness was expected at Gaspe on the 12th and at Quebec on the 17th inst. The Duke of Newcastle had been unwell, but had recovered.

Three members of the Montreal City Council were receiving the most bitter denunciations of the press and the public for having, as it was alleged, used language in the Council of the most disgraceful kind, directed against the British Sovereign and the British people.

The foreign residents in New York were making arrangements to give a grand reception and ball in honour of the Prince of Wales.

A destructive tornado had visited Kansas, destroying much property. Miramon was at Lagos. An attack on the capital was expected. Disturbances were reported on the north coast of Mexico.

A serious insurrection of the negroes was reported on the guano island of Sombrero.

INDIA.

The Income Tax Bill has passed. The first quarterly payment is to be due on the 1st of November next. The tax is not made retrospective. Closing shops, or doing or inducing any act to evade the enactments of the bill, is punished by twelve months' imprisonment and a fine.

A great meeting had been held in the Bombay Chamber of Commerce to take the sense of the mercantile community upon Mr. Wilson's paper-currency scheme, which it condemned wholly.

But the disarming Act—which raises the old antagonism of white and black—has been more fiercely criticised than all the financial measures put together. After long and lively debates, in which there occurred some sharp passages of arms between Sir Mordaunt Wells, Mr. Harrington, Sir B. Peacock, and Mr. Wilson, the bill passed, but in a very different shape from that in which it was originally presented to the Council. The Government carried their point of not specially exempting Europeans, but permission is given by the Act to magistrates to exempt whomsoever they please, be he native or European.

Mr. Wilson has explained in the Legislative Council, to quiet some disagreeable reports, that India will have to bear no share of the expenses of the Chinese war.

The decision of Government regarding the disgraceful affair in the Mosque at Cairo is, that the two senior officers are dismissed the service, and the others have had a severe reprimand.

NAPLES AND SICILY.

Garibaldi is in Calabria, to contend with 4000 chosen followers in the name of liberty and Italian independence against the large and well-trained army of a King. If we have recourse to figures and compare the numerical strength of the opposed forces, nothing seems more ridiculous than this invasion. The King of the remaining "Sicily" disposes of an army which, according to official statistics, should number 70,000 infantry of the guard and line, 6000 cavalry, and 6000 artillery, even when a fair deduction is made for losses in Sicily; and, to cut off Garibaldi's communications by sea, has a fleet of 121 vessels, carrying 820 guns, not reckoning the little *Veloce*. But in this war such calculations would be quite out of place.

The information supplied by the telegraph up to the time we go to press is in all respects too imperfect to afford the materials of a connected representation of the facts of this landing: we may, however, collect its most striking features. A telegram from Messina, dated Sunday evening, stated that Garibaldi had then disembarked with 3500 men; while another from Naples, received through Florence, and dated Tuesday, states that the General had only landed that morning. It says—

News has been received of the landing of 2000 Garibaldians in Calabria, who joined the insurgents and attacked Reggio. This morning 130 Sicilian vessels disembarked Garibaldi and his army at Bagnara. The telegraphic lines between Palmi and Reggio have been cut.

But this latter telegram seems to tell of a previous landing of 2000 partisans of the General who had joined the insurgents, probably under Missori, who landed with 3500 picked men on the night of the 8th inst. If we add the 2000 first mentioned in the Naples telegram to the troops subsequently mentioned as being carried over in 130 Sicilian fishing-boats, then, allowing ten soldiers to each boat, we shall get a force tolerably similar to that reported in the message from Messina. There is less doubt about the part of the coast where the disembarkation has taken place. Bagnara is a seaport in the Gulf of Goija, sixteen miles to the north-east of Reggio, and about six miles to the north of Torre del Cavallo, near which Missori landed. How Garibaldi could have been permitted to land there with so considerable a force is as unaccountable as was his landing at Marsala. The Neapolitan steamers have been for weeks past moving backwards and forwards through the Straits of Messina, close to Bagnara, exhibiting a fusy activity by day, and sending up an abundance of skyrockets in the night, but yet not interrupting the transmission of arms from Sicily to the main land, nor hindering the deputations of Calabrians to Garibaldi's headquarters. Their commanders must have a strong and radical conviction of the futility of an employment which they discharge in a manner so perfunctory. A provisional Calabrian Government has already been formed and commenced operations at Potenza, a neighbouring town.

We must also give the following telegram from Naples, Aug. 18:—Fifteen hundred men, with arms, and two hundred tents, said to have come from Sardinia, have been gradually landed at Naples, but were compelled by the Royal Guard to re-embark. It was suspected that their intention was to assist in the construction of barricades in the event of an insurrection breaking out.

And this from Messina of August 19:—

The city has been illuminated in honour of the departure of Garibaldi for the main land.

Garibaldi, on his return from Capra, met and went on board an English vessel. On his arrival at the Faro he found another English ship, having on board 30,000 muskets and fifteen rifled cannon.

He departed again without landing, accompanied by Colonel Bizio and 5000 volunteers.

General Cosens is prepared to leave for another point of the main land. A Garibaldian vessel was run aground on the Neapolitan coast in order to land 2000 volunteers.

The Neapolitan cruisers, as was the case at the first landing of Garibaldians at Marsala, fired on the vessel after the landing had been effected.

The following account of Garibaldi's plans, and of the descent of Missori, is given by the *Times* correspondent in Sicily. Garibaldi, he says, had two plans of offensive operations to choose from—

The first, more brilliant and more expeditious, but likewise more hazardous, was to collect the forces and transport them into the heart of the continental possessions of the King of Naples; the second to effect a landing in Calabria, and work up our way through the country to Naples. Were Garibaldi's views only directed to Naples he would, I am sure, scarcely have hesitated between the two, and chosen the more hazardous one, as more suited to his taste. But his ideas aim higher, to the unity of Italy, for which all Italy should co-operate, Calabria as well as all the rest. It is a practical way of completing the union this passing from one end of Italy towards the other, planting national ideas, making them take root, grow, and mature; teaching that example of sacrifice and devotion which Upper Italy gives to the rest by sending her sons to fight, suffer hardships, and die in the interest of the common cause. Calabria contains elements which one day may be most important in establishing and defending Italian independence. Besides this, there was a formal call for Garibaldi by representatives of all the towns of Calabria, asking for his speedy arrival—a call he could not very well resist.

From the first it seemed desirable to surprise one of the positions on the opposite side, the possession of which should facilitate the landing of the main force. The question was between this Fort of the Fiumara and the Fort of Scylla. After Major Missori had gone over in disguise, and reconnoitred the place, it was dreaded, for various reasons, to make the attack on

the Fort of Fiumara. Major Misori was chosen to carry it out. He received about forty guides, all proved young men; 100 men of the brigade Saachi, and about 50 men chosen from different corps under the orders of Colonel Le Flot. They were to embark at the Faro at ten p.m., in boats, and row right across to the Fiumara, below the fort, make a rush at it and scale it, for which purpose they were to carry ladders and other material with them. Three cannon-shots were to be the signal that the *coup de main* had succeeded.

In the meantime the Division Cosenz was to be in readiness. About 2000 were to be embarked in three steamers, and the rest prepared to embark in the boats, which were drawn up on the beach, the boats prepared for the guns and horses to be laden in the little lake, and brought out at the moment, to be taken in tow by the steamers. As soon as the disembarkation was happily executed the steamers were to return and continue to embark the different corps.

The preliminaries were successful enough. Men, steamers, and boats were all in readiness, and at the given time thirty-two boats laden with the little band chosen for the first trial. They started under favourable circumstances enough, the night being rather dark, and the Neapolitan steamers at a good distance. Three other boats started a little later, having been detained by the embarkation of matériel. All was expectation during the next half hour, and, as the greatest silence prevailed on the other side, and no stir was audible, every one hoped that all was right, when all at once the flash and report of a gun, followed by a few shots of musketry, dispelled the illusion, and hope gave way. It was a painful half hour, as you may imagine. The sound of oars made an end of it, a rush followed towards the beach, and soon after, one after another, in came the thirty-two boats, bringing the news that they had landed their men without being observed, and were just preparing to return, when the alarm-gun was fired from the fort. How the alarm was caused remained a mystery which as yet is not sufficiently cleared up. Soon after the three other boats returned, but with their men. They had missed the road, or had been carried to another point by the torrent, and the alarm was given before they could land their men. The most probable supposition is, therefore, that they had attracted notice and awakened attention. That the alarm was given most thoroughly there could be no doubt, for the three boats tried several times to go across, but always returned, having heard the drums beat.

Still the hope remained that the attention of the enemy being attracted towards the sea, those who had landed might escape observation, and thus succeed in their enterprise. But hour after hour has passed since without bringing the desired signal of the three cannon-shots.

Nothing was heard of the absent party that day, but on the 9th, at about noon, the suspense was ended. Writing on the 10th at the Faro, the *Times* correspondent says:—

Yesterday, about noon, all minds were relieved by the news which came of the forlorn hope on the other side. They were all safe at St. Angelo in the mountains, and had been already joined by a number of Calabrese insurgents. They hoped to be soon numerous enough to undertake something. This news was not alone welcome as reassuring about the safety of the chosen lot, but likewise important, as it brought another feature into the whole affair. Of course, according to all laws of warfare, an adversary may follow up his success as he best can, so I suppose no one would have had a right to complain of a descent of Garibaldi on the continent. It was simply using the right of warfare. An insurrection in Calabria, besides being an assistance in military operations, has the advantage of silencing all objections which might be raised. It was, above all, with a view of attracting attention to the sea, and thus giving time to the insurrectionary force to increase, that last night steam was got up, and several feints were made to go across. The feints succeeded, and all night long the steamers, gun-boats, and the garrisons of the forts were kept on the alert. There was a continual signalling, going to and fro, showing lights, putting them out again, but scarcely any firing. Only when the steamers were approaching was there musketry from the line of outposts.

The Neapolitan elections have been adjourned until to-morrow, and the Parliament is not to assemble before the latter part of the year.

The Count of Aquila, banished from Naples on the well-known antiated ground of having conspired against the Ministry, has actually arrived on French soil, and we are promised the presence of his Royal Highness in London. It appears that the Prince endeavoured to get himself proclaimed Regent of the kingdom.

The *Débats* notifies the final and absolute departure of the Queen-Stepmother for Spain, with her youngest son and her daughters. She leaves behind her eldest boy, Count Trani, who, with Count Trapani, the youngest brother of the late Bomba, proposes following in her wake. Her exodus took place from Gaeta in a Spanish war-ship.

The Paris correspondent of the *Globe*, writing on Tuesday, says:—"There is lying at anchor under the palace windows (at Naples) the *Arthur*, a clipper war-schooner, laden with specie to the amount of 30 million ducats, which is only waiting for a favourable moment to sheer off for Trieste, round Sicily, intending to give that island a wide berth. In the absence of Manna 10 millions more have been abstracted from the public service, being the produce of rentes inscribed on the State ledger (1st of May and 6th of June of the current year), saddling the kingdom with an annual payment of 500,000 ducats as a legacy."

Garibaldi has left Sirtori in command of the patriot army in Sicily.

MR. COBDEN AND THE FRENCH TREATY.

The *Post* published the following extract from a private letter, dated August 13, addressed by Mr. Cobden to a friend in this country:—

I have still no reason to doubt that matters will be brought to a satisfactory result here. Up to the present moment I have experienced nothing but candour and straightforwardness in my dealings with the French Government, while all the misrepresentation, falsehood, and difficulties which I have had to encounter have come from the English side of the Channel. Nothing disgusts me more than the cowardice and want of honest principle in our own politicians. "Anything for a momentary cry which may give a triumph over a political opponent!" seems to be the motto of our party men. You will see that in less than a couple of years all our politicians will be eager enough to claim the merit of having always been friendly to the French treaty. The paragraph you enclosed, giving a conversation of mine, is one of those rascally acts of eavesdropping for which American newspaper writers are so notorious. There is a good deal of the paragraph which agrees with what I have thought; but whether I expressed it in private conversation is more than I could swear to, as no one expects to be made responsible for private gossip. There ought to be the punishment of the pillory or the stocks revived for those who publish in newspapers the unguarded remarks which fall from a man in private conversation, when he frequently speaks merely to provoke a reply and keep people from going to sleep over too serious an interchange of views. No; I did not help the Emperor to prepare his pamphlet about the English and French armies and navies. Take my word for it, however, that there is a vast deal of systematic lying in England about the French armaments. You remember that charming old lady, Madame Wolley's landlady, whom we visited, who remarked—"Pauvre John Bull, quand on veut enlever son argent, on lui fait peur de nous!" I am ashamed of the childlike simplicity with which Englishmen allow themselves to be imposed upon respecting anything French. You will see a great and sudden reaction in the public mind soon. Common sense, aided by the publication of the new French tariff, will put an end to the panic.

THE "GREAT EASTERN."—The "gridiron" at Milford Haven, for the beaching of the *Great Eastern*, is now nearly completed. It has been in course of construction for the last two months, giving employment, at such times as the tide permitted, to about 200 men day and night. The beach, to the distance of 550 feet, has been levelled to within a few feet of low-water mark, at spring tides, which, at high water, will give a depth of 25 to 27 feet. The beaching-place itself is composed of two "grids," 50 yards distant from each other. Each grid is 150 feet long, constructed of forty strong transverse "balks" (or beams) of 45, 35, 30, and 25 feet long by 13 inches square. They are laid down in four lots, ten of each length, with an interval between each beam of 3 feet. Each balk of timber is firmly fixed in its place by three iron-shod piles, of from 3 to 4 feet long. The longest of these lots is laid nearest amidships, and the rest according to their length, thus tapering off to the stem and stern, so as in some degree to correspond with the beam of that part of the ship that will be immediately above them. Two "dolphins," 30 feet in height, made of four balks, each 13 inches square, firmly clamped and bolted together, strongly supported by back and diagonal struts, have been driven in at about 300 feet apart. These are for the ship's side to lie against, as well as to act as guides in the actual operation of beaching. One of these dolphins will be just forward of the starboard sponson, and the other near her starboard quarter. These, together with the mooring tackle and other necessary gear (all of which are provided) will keep the vessel in her position. It being intended that, while beached, the ship's head shall be to the westward, she will have to be swung before she goes on the gridiron, which, with a craft of her size, will be a delicate operation well worth seeing. The whole structure has been made at the expense of the South Wales Railway Company, and will cost upwards of £1000.

IRELAND.

INUNDATIONS IN IRELAND.—The Dublin journals teem with the most gloomy accounts of the weather in various parts of the country, there having been very heavy rains for some days past. In Dublin itself the deluge was so great on Saturday morning that an inundation was threatened. There have been immense floods from Derry to Enniskillen and up to Drogheda, acres of hay having been swept away. There bridges have been thrown down, the roads have been cut across in several places, and there have been several extensive slips of railway embankments. Accounts from the low-lying districts of the province of Leinster give fearful details of the destruction caused to all kinds of property. The River Barrow, becoming swollen in the district near Mountmellick, has caused considerable damage; and in Castletown and about it several hundred pounds will be required to cover the loss occasioned to the crops and dwellings of the people. The picturesque little town of Timahoe is said to be entirely flooded, the streets and roads there being quite impassable on account of the vast accumulation of water. But the most melancholy account we have is from the town of Templemore, where nearly every house was filled with water; and one poor fellow, a policeman, named Eugene O'Sullivan, lost his life.

"LA QUESTION IRLANDAISE."—Now that a bond of union has been cemented between certain of the French and Irish journals, resulting in a regular interchange of civilities between Tipperary and Paris editors, it was not to be supposed that Mr. Smith O'Brien would hide his light under a bushel, or refrain from taking his part in the questions which have led to the establishment of the *entente cordiale*. The *Nation* has "great pleasure" in publishing a letter addressed by Mr. O'Brien to the talented author of "The Irish Question." Mr. O'Brien says:—"I am happy to be able to assure you in sincerity that I consider this, your recent work, to be one of the best statements, within a short compass, of the case of Ireland that I have ever seen. I can assure you, also, that though I am not one of those who desire to witness an invasion of this country by France (believing that such an invasion would be disastrous to both France and Ireland), I yet ardently desire that friendly sympathies and active inter-communication should continually exist between the French nation and the people of Ireland. Whether it be our destiny to remain politically incorporated with England, or to re-establish a domestic Parliament in connection with the Crown of England, or to acquire an independent existence as a nation—under any of these contingencies it is desirable that we should find in the French people sympathisers and allies. We are habitually misrepresented and calumniated by the English press, and as foreigners seldom see the Irish newspapers, it is of the utmost importance to us that foreign writers, who like you take the trouble to investigate facts, should be ready to vindicate our character and our claims, and thus induce the public opinion of Europe to render justice to us. I am happy to find that the conditions, rights, and prospects of the Irish people are becoming more than at any former period, a subject of discussion in France. My friend Mr. Leonard has done much towards bringing about this result. Being always in Paris, he is able to supply correct information to many influential foreigners, who might otherwise be misled by the representations of the English press. His translation of your pamphlet has been read by many thousands in this country. There are many points of affinity between the French and the Irish character, and the traditions of this country lead a large portion of my countrymen to entertain towards France sentiments of affection and gratitude. You may, therefore, rely upon the existence of a disposition on the part of the Irish people to appreciate your desire to champion their rights and to defend their character."

THE PROVINCES.

ATROCIOUS TREATMENT OF AN IDIOT.—An inquest was opened at Dudley, South Staffordshire, on Saturday, on the body of Timothy Lawley, an imbecile, eleven years of age, whose death is said to have been occasioned by a long course of cruelty and ill-usage. For some time past it has been known to the neighbours that the lad was used with great severity. The first witness called was Mary Davies, a single woman, living next door to the mother of the child, who deposed to having frequently seen the child beaten with a strap in the most violent manner, by his mother. When she had interfered she had been met with great abuse. She had frequently known the child locked up for a day without a particle of food, and upon these occasions, the parents being out, she had drawn the child through a window, and given it food and warmed it. She had seen the deceased, when able to get about, rush to the "mizen," and there greedily eat herrings' heads and other refuse. A short time ago she heard the child moaning through the wall. It was in the nighttime. She heard the wife say, "Get up, he is ill," upon which the husband replied, "Lie still and let him die." Police-constable Clark, of the Staffordshire police force, deposed to being called to the house where the deceased lived some eight months ago; he found the child tied by the leg to a staple in the wall by a piece of strong rope. It was then in a filthy and miserable state, and appeared to be in want of food. The inquest was adjourned.

THE GUN-EXPLOSION AT DOVER.—The inquest on the bodies of the unfortunate volunteer artillerymen who met their death at Dover by the explosion of a gun was brought to a termination on Tuesday. The jury stated in their verdict that the accident was accelerated by the long use of the gun, and they recommended that the guns should undergo a periodical inspection.

ENLISTMENT FOR GARIBALDI.—An attempt has been made by Mr. Crawshaw, the Mayor of Gateshead, to enforce the Foreign Enlistment Act against the publisher and editor of the *Newcastle Chronicle*. That journal published certain articles favourable to Captain Styles's mission to this country—that gentleman's object being, as is well known, to organise an English battalion for service under Garibaldi. Mr. Crawshaw appeared before the Newcastle magistrates on Monday for the purpose of preferring his charge and stating the grounds upon which it was based. The magistrates refused to grant the warrant for which Mr. Crawshaw had applied; and, in giving their decision, they held that the act of enlistment had not been committed; that there had been no personal contact between the *Chronicle* and the individuals attempted to be wrought upon; and, lastly, that the articles complained of amounted to an historical statement of Captain Styles's proceedings. Mr. Crawshaw then informed the magistrates that he should carry the case into the Court of Queen's Bench, and apply for a mandamus against them for refusing to grant a warrant.

A QUACK DOCTOR IN TROUBLE.—At the Dudley County Court on Saturday an action was brought by a labourer, named Skinner, and his wife, to recover the sum of £10 from a person who styles himself "Dr. Miller." It was stated that on the 21st of June last the plaintiff and his wife went to the herbal establishment of "Dr. Miller," in Dudley, and asked for a pennyworth of Epsom salts. Mrs. Miller, in the absence of her husband, gave plaintiff a packet. Upon reaching home Mrs. Skinner dissolved the substance in some water, and proceeded to take it. Remarkable a strange taste about it, she asked her husband to taste it also, which he did, and was immediately seized with vomiting. His wife was taken seriously ill, a surgeon had to be sent for, and for some time her life was in danger. The substance given for Epsom salts was found to be sulphate of zinc, a deadly poison when taken in large doses. The Judge gave a verdict for the full amount claimed, commenting severely upon the conduct of Miller.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—ANOTHER PARIS PAMPHLET.—Among the various pamphlets which the Syrian massacres have brought into existence there is one entitled, "Nouvelle Phase de la Question d'Orient," by M. de Tchihatcheff. He recommends a joint occupation of those parts of the Ottoman empire where a large Christian population is in contact with, and consequently at the mercy of, strong and fanatical Mussulman races. This occupation should comprise Syria, Asia Minor, Cyprus, Candia, the Turkish islands of the Archipelago, and Roumelia—a total extent of territory equal to three times that of France. Only certain points, however, of this territory need be occupied, such as, in Asia Minor, Smyrna, Kutaya, Samsun, Angora, Konia, Kaisarea Sivas, Erzeroum, Adalia, Marash, Diarbekir, and Mossul; and in Syria, Aintab, Aleppo, Hamah, Beyrout, Damascus, Jerusalem, and Ghaza. The army of occupation might consist of 100,000 men of all Christian nations, and should be kept there at the expense of the Ottoman Government. M. de Tchihatcheff, let us add, only considers this military occupation as a first step towards a partition of the Turkish empire, which would thus be effected among the nations of Europe without any, he thinks, of those political complications which have hitherto prevented it, seeing that the different Powers, being in joint occupation, would be better enabled to watch each other's movements, and act accordingly.

LOCUSTS IN RUSSIA.—The accounts given in all the Russian journals of the prospects of the harvest are very unfavourable. Violent storms of rain and hail, floods, and high winds have damaged the crops in many localities; and, in addition to these causes of destruction, some of the southern provinces have been visited by that scourge the locust. In Bessarabia the population has been called out against the advancing swarms of this insect, as against an invading army. A cordon of 20,000 men, under military orders, was drawn round the district in which the locusts had appeared, and the measures taken for the extermination of the pest had to some extent succeeded, when another band appeared in the same district, and in the government of Cherson. This insect army spread over the country till it covered an area of sixty verst in length and five verst in breadth. It crossed the Dniester and settled down on the forests and fields, devouring every blade of corn and every leaf. The cordon of defence extended along fifteen verst, and an active war was carried on against the insects; but, by the last accounts, the result was doubtful, as the locusts had broken through the line and advanced into the interior of Bessarabia. They have also appeared in the vicinity of Odessa.

THE AGAPEMONE STORMED.

It was known on Monday in Bridgewater that a most determined attack was to be made the following evening upon the Agapemone to deliver Mrs. Price from the Princeites, and the aid of volunteers was solicited to enable the Rev. Mr. Prince to resist any force that might be brought against him. The enterprise was soon bruited abroad, and numerous persons of different classes offered to assist in the undertaking. The storming party met on the Spaxton-road at six o'clock on Tuesday evening, headed by Mr. Price, and proceeded in two vans toward the Agapemone. They arrived there about seven o'clock, and directly commenced the assault. Two of the inmates of this peculiar institution were on guard, armed with bludgeons, at the gate leading from the garden in front of the laundry, that point being the one most easily scaled. Mr. Price, followed by about twenty of his supporters, rushed towards the gate and scrambled over the adjoining wall, obtaining access to the grounds at once. The Agapemonites retreated and gave the alarm, but were quickly followed by their late coreligionist to the front door of the principal dwelling. Mr. Price knocked at the door and loudly demanded entrance, declaring that he had come for his wife. Entrance was denied him, and the door was thereupon battered with iron bars provided by the assailants. The panels were soon smashed in; but it was found difficult to break open the other portion, the wood being very solid and the bars at the back exceedingly strong. When the panels were smashed in the Agapemonites were seen in strong force in the passage, armed with life-preservers, and the entrance was barricaded with tables. One of the Princeites presented a pistol, and threatened to shoot the first intruder. A man in the crowd outside hereupon produced another pistol, and informed the Princeite that his weapon was as good as the one first exhibited. By this time the door had been forced and a cry was raised to break in the two bow-windows. This was about to be carried into effect, and the people at the threshold were beginning to force their way into the passage, when one of the defenders called out, "A flag of truce!" A parley ensued, the spokesman on the part of the Agapemone offering to admit Mr. Price alone to the house. The companions of that gentleman would not accede to that arrangement, and it was eventually agreed that six individuals should accompany Mr. Price in search of his wife. They then entered the house, and searched every room therein, their examination lasting more than an hour. A Princeite accompanied them from room to room, and the ladies of the establishment were seen in their various apartments. Beds were turned over and closets peered into, but no Mrs. Price was discoverable. The investigating party were treated civilly by the inmates, and when it grew dark were supplied with candles, and whilst the search was going on the outside multitude was greatly augmented by persons from Bridgewater, Spaxton, and Charlton. The lane leading to the Abode of Love from the main road was filled with vehicles of all sorts.

From the first groups of men had stationed themselves in different parts of the grounds to foil any attempt to take away the lady. The scrutiny proved unavailing. The cottages, conservatories, and stables, were visited by Mr. Price and his half-dozen followers without success, and he had to retire as he came. The conduct of the assailants was much less riotous than might have been expected. It is said that scarcely a shrub or a flower was injured, and that the breakage of the door was the only damage perpetrated. Mr. Price, previous to setting out on his expedition, impressed upon those who accompanied him the great desirability of inflicting no greater injury than was absolutely necessary for the accomplishment of the object they had in view.

The mission to the Agapemone having failed, a consultation was held as to what was next to be done. Some suggested that the neighbouring Lamb Inn and cottages should be visited, but the general opinion was that Prince's farm at Aisholt (three miles distant) contained Mrs. Price, and that it would be advisable to hasten thither at once. To Aisholt, therefore, Mr. Price led the way. The cortege had not gone more than half a mile before an inmate of the Abode was discerned mounted on one of the splendid black chargers belonging to the establishment, galloping towards the motley procession. The rider passed the hindmost vehicle at a smart pace; a shout was raised, and an attempt made to stop him. The horse was lashed and struck, and men ran in front of the animal to drive it back. The horse reared and plunged, but its rider kept his seat admirably. No progress could be made, however, and the rider returned, only to hasten to the menaced Aisholt Farm by another route. The road was rough and hilly, so that heavily-laden conveyances advanced slowly. The expeditionary corps were, however, eager for the fray, and, leaving their vans, walked to the place to be attacked. Darkness drew on rapidly, and when the bottom of Aisholt-hill had been reached a council of war was held, whereat it was decided that it would be unwise to attack the farm that night, as sufficient time had elapsed to permit the removal of Mrs. Price, and it would be impracticable to hunt the adjacent woods in search of her. Mr. Price and the individual who had acted as his lieutenant collected round them in the road, what may be called the advanced guard of the storming-party, and addressed them, thanking them for their services, which might again be asked for. The expedition then returned to Bridgewater.

PRINCE DANILLO'S SUCCESSOR.—A Paris paper gives some details concerning Prince Nicholas Petrovitch, the new Vladika of Montenegro. This young man was a student at the School of Louis le Grand, in Paris, from the 1st of August, 1856, to the 31st of March, 1860, where it is said that he was much esteemed and liked both by his masters and his fellow-pupils. He is described as a tall, handsome youth, of remarkable physical strength, with black hair and masculine and regular features, and his character is said to be distinguished by its frankness, nobility, and generosity. Before coming to France, he had passed several years at Trieste and Venice, and he is well acquainted with the German, Italian, and French languages. The name of the assassin of Prince Danilo is Kudich. This man, it seems, had been obliged in June last to make his escape from Montenegro, and take refuge in Dalmatia, whence he was soon afterwards expelled by the authorities. The judicial investigation into this murder will be made by an Austrian tribunal, conformably to the laws of the Empire, the crime having been committed on Austrian territory.

THE FORESTERS' FIFTY DAY.—The sixth grand demonstration of Foresters, in aid of the Funeral and Widow and Orphan Funds, took place on Tuesday at the Crystal Palace. Nearly sixty-eight thousand persons were present. It was dusk long before this enormous crowd showed any clear sign of diminution. A string of pleasure-vans assisted the railways in effecting the return journey; and the thoroughfares leading from the bridges were vocal as late as eleven o'clock with the music of the horn which every Forester seemed to think it a point of good fellowship to possess and to employ.

MR. SPURGEON'S CONTINENTAL EXPERIENCES.—A meeting of Mr. Spurgeon's friends was held in the partly-completed Tabernacle on Tuesday afternoon, for the purpose of hearing from Mr. Spurgeon some account of his recent tour upon the Continent. The specific object of the meeting was to collect funds for the completion of the structure, more than £5500 being still required, although £22,196 19s. 2d. has been expended. Mr. Spurgeon gave his narrative in a hurried and somewhat disconnected form. He referred to the prevalence of superstition on the Continent, and said he went out with some of the "Irish brigade" intended for the protection of the Pope. He never saw such an irregular set of brutes before in his life. There was a great scarcity of luggage—they had only one pocket-handkerchief and some boiled potatoes among them. Antwerp he described as the most religious place on the face of the earth in a bad sense—it was full of superstition, and images of the Virgin Mary abounded at every corner. With regard to the Pope, he hoped his rotten throne would soon fall, and that Garibaldi would be the means of shaking it. Prolonged cheers followed this remark. Of Cologne he remembered more of what he smelt than what he saw. Albert Smith had said there were seventy descriptions of smells there; but he had found every half yard gave something more horrible than he had met before. Baden was a godless place. He went to see the gaming-table, and thought it the most frightful sight he ever beheld. Those were best off who lost. If they lost it served them right, but if they won the devil would have them. In Prussia he was glad to find a great hatred of Louis Napoleon, and he feared that some day a catastrophe would occur which would make the people of England regret they had allied themselves to a tyrant, and not to Prussia, their natural ally. In Prussia he found all the work done by women, and it made him truly indignant. "If," said he, "I had been one of the strapping women I saw, with my husband smoking his pipe, and looking on while I worked, and had there been an Act for giving wives who beat their husbands two months' imprisonment, I would have broken that act."

MESSINA.

We have already had occasion (see No. 274) to give a general view of the City of Messina, but this sickle-shaped town has accumulated so large an amount of popular interest that it will scarcely be deemed out of place to introduce a view which shows its principal aspect in greater detail. Altogether nothing can well be more striking than this beautiful town, rising in its crescent shape above the noble harbour, which, extending to more than two miles in circumference, forms at once the nucleus for the commerce and the scene of the principal recreation of the inhabitants. In addition to the recent events which have rendered Messina so famous we have now to record the investiture of the city by the regular Garibaldian troops under Colonel Medici, who entered amid the hearty congratulations of the people, which were only surpassed by those which greeted the arrival of Garibaldi himself. Our second illustration, from a sketch by M. Durand Brager, will give our readers some idea of the ovation the liberators received from the Messinese. The whole line of their march through the streets was a triumph. Flags hung from every window, where ladies were stationed to salute the troops with wreaths and bouquets of flowers.

NEWS FROM VENICE.

We seldom get any reliable news from Venice. The following letter, therefore, is of more than usual interest. It is published in *Galignani* :—

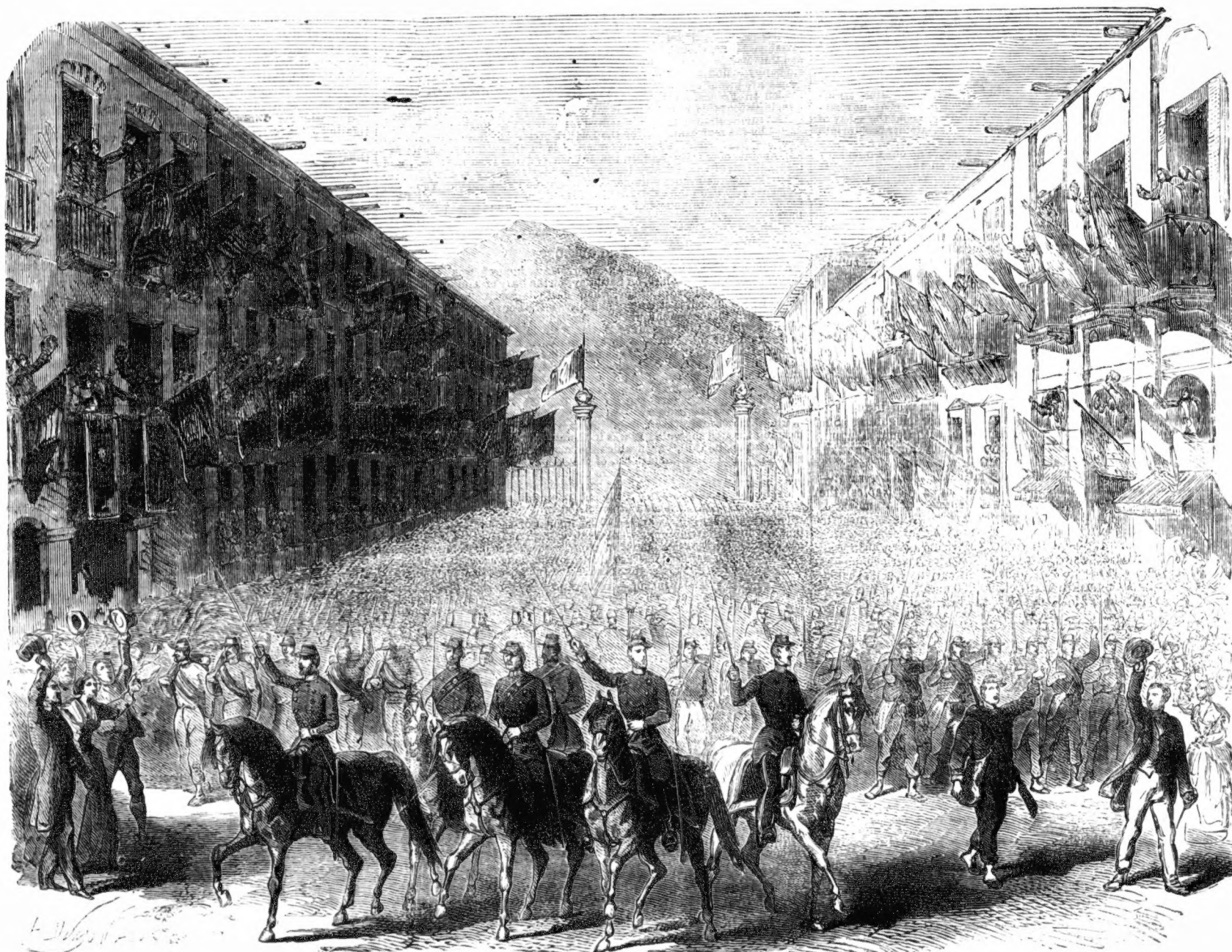
"The movement now going on in the south of Italy cannot but have great effect on the Venetian provinces; and it is as well to inform you as to the probable results, for blindly to deceive by drawing a pleasing picture of contentment and happiness is useless and unprofitable. If any traveller who has just done Rome, and is taking the Italian circuit before returning to his native country, should chance to visit Venice,

his impression will be the following :—I never was in a more quiet city in my life; it is dull, very dull; but as to any signs of discontent, none exist; and even Lord Elcho himself, whose acquaintance was confined to the Austrians, or the few Austrian Italians, was led into the same error. Now, as no Venetian will trust any man whom he does not know well, so the stranger will never hear the truth? and the *Venetian Gazette* no more dares to mention the nightly arrests than it does to recommend wholesome and useful reforms. The stranger, therefore, betakes himself in the cool of the evening to the Piazza San Mario, lolls in luxury either at the Café Specchi, Florian, Sutillo, or any other, even the Quadri; and there, to the sound of the beautiful music played by one of the finest bands in Europe—for none can surpass the Austrian in that respect—he takes his ice or his coffee, smokes his cigar, and puffs out his sorrows or his cares in the balmy air of an Adriatic breeze. The stranger is driven to this, for there are no theatres open; and, as he knows no one, he speaks to no one; and his neighbour in the next chair, a spy, a sure spy of the police, has the improvisatore talent of an Italian to fill up the gap in his report. The band is gone! the gas turned off from the iron branches which threw a blaze over the seventy-two musicians; itinerant minstrels succeed. A host of vendors of shell-work, slippers, punches, and all sorts of articles rather disturb the luxury of the traveller's quiet thoughts; for these vendors will not easily take 'No' for an answer, and importune the calmest into an angry 'Via-via.' He rises from his chair, surveys with wonder the tall Campanila which stands out in the bright moonlight, and entices him to view the Piazzetta, the Column, the Island of St. Giorgio, and gaze on the silvery rays which sparkle on the calm water. All is still—still as death, silent as the grave. The traveller has spent his evenings on the Piazza, and is willing to write to the *Times* that never was there since the leaky ark reposed on mud any city, town, or hamlet half so quiet, half so contented as Venice, that has not a London police.

Hark! There is a tramp of soldiers. It is merely the guard. Every city has its guard; and here in the narrow streets the soldiers march in single file. The guard seems as long and interminable as the serpent. Have you a quick, observant eye, Mr. Traveller? 'Yes.' Very good. Just see if every musket in this greatest of all cities is not loaded, and capped, and ready for immediate use, and particularly remark if you can see one soldier without a companion. Never mind the everlasting meeting with officers in white uniforms by hundreds; or, if you are inclined to see men and numbers at their parade or exercise, take a morning stroll to the Campo di Marte, or look at the artillery on the Piazzetta, or count the guns pointed from the Island of St. Giorgio, or go to the end of the railway bridge and remark how many forts you can number from the wall of the Botanical Garden to the Fort Hainau, and its vis-à-vis close to it, or take a walk along the Lido to Malamocco; and if you are not the dullest of all imaginable drones the thought will occur to you, Why all this military display, these immense fortifications, this eternal surveillance, if Venice is the quiet, dull city it looks? Or consider if this quietude is not the result of experience and prudence.

"What experience and what prudence! Pooh, pooh! all these forts and soldiers are merely for defence—from invasion. Nonsense; discontent, indeed! Why, I walk about from noon to midnight, and have never heard a murmur of sedition, or even the slightest demonstration beyond a tricoloured ribbon attached to a pigeon's neck.

"And have you not remarked that all the Italian ladies wear mourning? Do you see any gondolas following an Austrian fresco on the Grand Canal? Or are you not aware that when the band played in the boats under the windows of the Prince of Hesse not a light was to be seen from any house? And when the music concluded by playing the 'Buona Sera,' that at its conclusion hundreds of voices suddenly were heard singing to that favourite air, 'Ah, Canaglia! presto andate



ENTRY OF GENERAL MEDICI INTO MESSINA.—(FROM A SKETCH BY DURAND BRAGER.)

via di qua." Are you aware that at San Marco Church the preacher was hissed for his remarks upon Garibaldi; that upwards of thirty arrests took place in consequence, and that three cafés were ordered to be closed because the spies had reported that the hissing was arranged the night previous? The Venetians, wittily enough, revenged themselves by singing, as the cafés were being closed, 'Un alla volta per carità.'

"Bless me! and do you call this discontent? These are mere straws to show the direction of the wind.

"Do you want reasons for discontent? I will give you enough. Now, listen to this. In the first place, the taxation of the Venetian provinces is 60 per cent; so that if you, Mr. Traveller, had £1000 a year, you would not feel very contented if an absolute Government took £600 out of it. You would not feel very enamoured of the Government which arrested any of your friends and placed yourself in the same jeopardy; and who, without any trial, or form of trial, or mockery of trial, or without your being informed for what you were arrested, sent you away to an unhealthy prison situated on the marshes of the Danube. Or if you had a sister who was ill, and went to ask for a passport to go out of the kingdom to some baths recommended by the doctor, received for answer—'If you are well enough to travel you are well enough to remain; you cannot go.' Or if you had estates in other countries where revolution has begun, and you ventured then to go, you heard that your name was placarded on the Rialto and elsewhere, with the comfortable assurance that, if you did not return within four months, your estates would be sequestered first and sold afterwards; and you knew it was no idle threat by the fact of its having been already carried into execution, and that, even if you were allowed to leave the country for three months, you might have to suffer the indignity of having your stockings taken off to see you conveyed no letters, as happened lately to Count —, one of the first noblemen in Venice.

Or what think you of the case of the Countess at Vicenza, who had a visit from the prefect of police, who had a letter in his hand. 'This letter is from your husband, madame; he refers to H., and L., and M. Whom do these letters represent?' 'I cannot tell,' answered the Countess; 'I have never seen the letter.' 'Oh, then, perhaps your memory will be better by a little solitude. Come to prison.' The Countess had very lately been confined, and was suckling the infant; if another nurse had not been found the child might have died. These are trifles, you say; well, what think you of this? Young men to the number of 50,000 have fled the country to take service in Piedmont. They are all affixed on the Rialto, and called upon to return. If they do so, what have they to expect? They have to expect a cordial reception—that, of course; the Austrian police are not such fools as to scare the birds they intend to entrap. The returned man is placed under surveillance, to be arrested shortly after; or he is made to join the army, of which no one who has not seen the discipline can for a moment estimate the punishment, so that the very fear of the punishment keeps these people from returning; and then their property is confiscated, and certainly not for the benefit of the next of kin. Thus there is neither security of life nor property; the unsuspecting man may be arrested in his bed—actually not have sufficient time to dress himself (and remember this is no *on dit*; I can vouch for it among my own personal friends)—torn from his wife and family, who are left without any resources except through the kindness of friends bold enough to be charitable in spite of the police, sent for months to distant galls, and manfully endowed by this paternal Government with eight sous a day. These are gentlemen of rank, lawyers of eminence, and men whose income ceases with their incarceration. And can you believe that the quiet or order is of that kind which emanates from men contended with their Government. No, at this moment all here is ripe and ready for insurrection, and it

would have broken out before had the Hungarians persevered, or Garibaldi been free to assist the Venetians. There will be no want of arms. In vain is Verona being fortified afresh, or forts springing up in every direction—troops stationed ready to inundate the country. When an oppressed nation rises, it rises like one immense giant, and throws off the incubes which prostrated it. The hour is near at hand; every ear listens with outstretched attention to every rumour concerning the great Italian liberator. Garibaldi's name is on every Italian lip, with blessings on him and prayers for his success. The Neapolitan example is lost. Francis II. will have the sins of his father visited on him. If Francis Joseph could profit by what is passing around him he would sell Venetia, make salutary reforms in his own country, and hold out a generous hand to those Hungarians who at present are inclined to keep him as their Sovereign, but who have another in view, and have even struck money with his effigy thereon."

STEAM-CARRIAGE FOR COMMON ROADS.

It would seem as though the difficulties which have hitherto prevented the adoption of steam conveyance upon ordinary roads were being gradually overcome, for only a few days since the local journals gave us an account of a journey of fourteen miles, from Inverness to Beaulieu, accomplished by the Earl of Caithness, who was accompanied by the Countess and the Rev. B. Ross, of Kintore.

Owing to its being the market-day there, the road was filled with horses and conveyances of all kinds. His Lordship passed through them all without any more inconvenience to the general traffic or alarm to horses than if he had been in his carriage-and-four. So perfectly had he the whole moving power under his control that he stopped more quickly than an ordinary carriage and horses could draw up,

and this he did as often as he saw the least danger of any horse being frightened.

After leaving Beaulieu, on those parts of the road where some distance forward can be seen, he attained the speed of eighteen miles an hour, and could have kept this up for any distance with ease and safety.

After reaching Allness his Lordship turned to the left, and took the road direct for Bonar Bridge. Here the carriage had a severe test applied to it, but he drove it up the hills without difficulty, and, coming down the very steep declivity near where the road joins the road from Tain, the control his Lordship had over it was most satisfactory, and enabled him to descend at any rate he wished, and with perfect ease and safety. Leaving the hospitable inn at Ardy, Lord Cathness then crossed Bonar Bridge, and drove on to Clashmore, after a very successful drive of nearly seventy miles.

The performance of the carriage has answered the expectations of its warmest promoters, and leaves no doubt as to its being not only practicable but really useful. It was designed and constructed by Mr. Rickett, Castle Foundry, Birmingham, who thus describes it:—

"The carriage is mounted on three wheels, each having independent springs—one small wheel in front, which is used for steering, and two behind, one or both of which are employed in propelling, one of them being fixed on the shaft, and the other engaged by a clutch; so that when disengaged the carriage may be turned round in its own length without stopping. It is easily guided by a handle from the fork of the front wheel, which is central with the outside seat; a break is applied to each driving-wheel, worked by a lever from the seat, so that the engine is entirely under the control of the driver.

"The engine is built upon a tank, which forms a strong tubular framework, the boiler being placed above; and the whole of the machinery is contained in the space between the boiler and tank, entirely protected from dust and dirt, and within reach of the stoker, for oiling, &c. The tank contains ninety gallons of water, sufficient for ten miles' run. The boiler is made of steel, and constructed so that it is not injuriously affected by variations of level."

Some idea may be formed of the tractional resistance on common roads when it is mentioned that as much power is required to draw one ton on a common road as fifteen to twenty tons on a railroad, and in this engine, to convey its full load at fifteen miles per hour on a level, requires an actual development of ten-horse power, so that great power and little weight are essentials in these engines.

GARIBALDI TO THE WOMEN OF SICILY.

According to a letter in the *Presse*, the want of self-reliance and persevering energy of the men of Sicily has occasioned Garibaldi some disappointment, and has led him to appeal to the women in the following proclamation:—

TO THE SICILIAN WOMEN.

"Liberty, the most precious gift of Providence to peoples, has been gained for Sicily, thanks to the manly resolution of the Sicilians and the generous aid of their brethren of the continent. Liberty, difficult to gain, is more difficult to keep, as all Italy for ages has experienced to her cost. Sicily is such a country that there is no need, in her case, to recur to foreign histories to find examples of all kinds of civic virtues; and the women there have at all times displayed a courage which has astonished the world. From the women of Syracuse, who cut off their tresses to make ropes of them in the old Roman days, to those of Messina, who encouraged their relatives to attack a bombarding host, there are valiant deeds of this sex in this island. The Vespers, also, an event unparalleled in the history of nations, saw the fair islanders fighting by the side of the combatants for national independence.

"I myself (I recall the occasion with emotion), in denouncing from the Palace of Palermo to this generous people the humiliating pretensions of their tyrant, heard a groaning repeated by the women who crowded the balconies, deep enough to turn an army pale, and that groaning was the death-sentence of tyranny.

"Sicily is free, it is true; a single citadel only remains in the power of the enemy; but eleven years ago

Sicilian valour achieved the same result; and yet that free land, through not having chosen to make a last effort, fell back into slavery, was trodden once more under mercenary feet, and brought to a worse condition than before the glorious revolution. Dear and gracious women of Sicily, hear the voice of the man who sincerely loves your beautiful country, to which he is bound by the affection of his whole life. He asks of you nothing for himself, nothing for others; but for the common fatherland he asks your powerful assistance. Call to arms the inhabitants of this island, and shame those who cling to their mother's or sweetheart's apronstrings.

"La Cairoli, of Pavia, a rich, noble, and beloved matron, had four sons. One died at Varese on the body of an Austrian whom he had killed; the eldest, Benedetto, you have at Palermo, scarred with the wounds he received at Calatufimi and Palermo; the third, Enrico, lives, though his skull was split open in those battles; and the fourth has been sent to join the same army by that incomparable mother. Women, give us your sons, your lovers! Few—the struggle will be long and doubtful, and full of danger for all. Many—we shall conquer

without battles; and you will see realised the hopes of twenty generations of Italians; and I shall restore to you your dear ones, bronzed by the battle-field, crowned with the aureole of victory, and blessed even by those enslaved and suffering peoples who have sent forth their sons to win back for you your country.

"Messina, August 3.
"G. GARIBALDI."

THE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT.

On Saturday last between 400 and 500 of the London Rifle Brigade, accompanied by their band, assembled for parade in review order at the King's-cross Railway terminus, and proceeded thence to Oak Lodge, Southgate, the seat of Mr. Sugden, of the brigade, who had kindly offered them the use of his park, about 200 acres in extent, for the purpose of a field-day. Owing, however, to the drenching rain, nothing more interesting took place than an attack on the substantial viands provided by the hospitable gentleman to whose grounds the corps had been invited.

A review of the companies comprising the 1st battalion of Kent Volunteer Rifles took place on Saturday afternoon in the beautiful park of Sir Thomas M. Wilson at Old Charlton.

An additional company of the Nottingham Rifle Corps, to be called the "Armstrongs," is about to be formed. The members will only be called on to pay down a third of the cost of their equipment, and a further monthly payment of 10d.

A review of the Lancashire Volunteers will take place in Knowsley Park on the 1st of next month. 10,500 men are already entered.

The 2nd battalion of the Lancashire Volunteers are making arrangements for a rifle contest at Hightown, near Liverpool.

Lieutenant-Colonel Bousfield's 1st battⁿ of Lancashire Volunteer Rifles are encamped at Crosby, near Liverpool, and appear determined, notwithstanding the bad weather, to remain there for some time to come.

The Earl of Leicester, Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, has appointed Tuesday, the 18th of September, for a general review of the Norfolk corps at Norwich. The review will take place on Mousehold-heath.

Lord Portman, Lord Lieutenant of Somerset, is completing arrangements for placing the volunteer corps of that county on a more complete military footing. The county is to be divided into three districts—an eastern district, a western district, and a central district; and a Colonel and Adjutant will be appointed to each.

The Bristol and Gloucestershire Artillery Corps were inspected on Saturday afternoon by Colonel M'Murdo, C.B., Inspector-General of Volunteer Corps, and Major Gustavus Hume, Inspector for the district. Each battery fired four shots and two shells. The firing was excellent.

The regimental committee of the London Rifle Brigade has decided that the first of the annual rifle gatherings, in connection with the corps, shall take place some time next October, when challenge medals and other prizes will be competed for.

The completion of the butt at the Crystal Palace has been much retarded by the unfavourable weather, but it is now nearly finished.

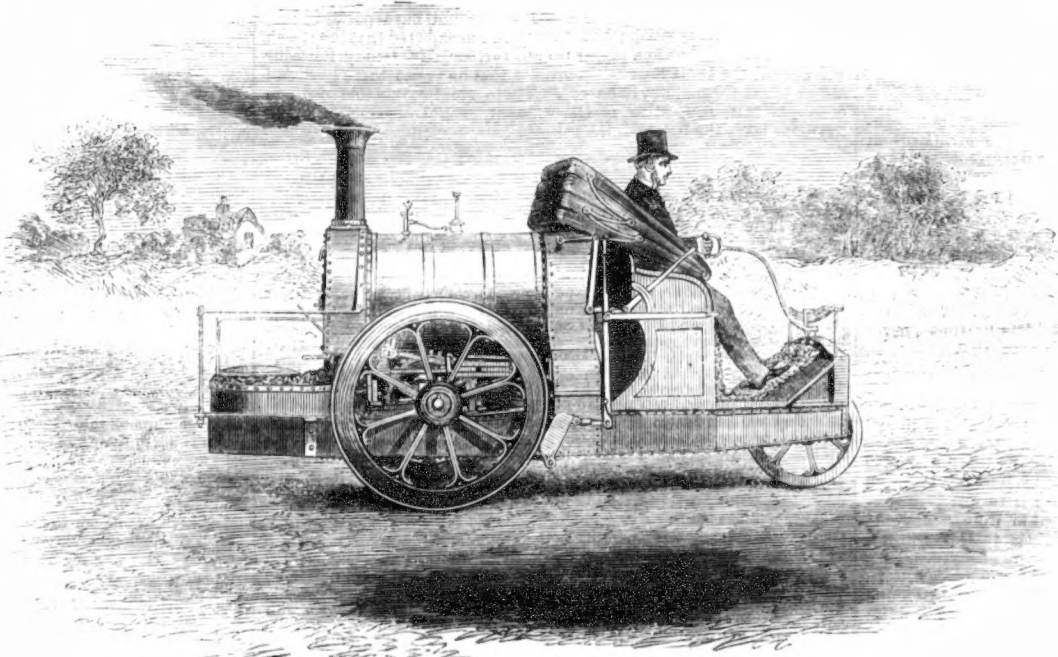
The 2nd battalion of Essex Volunteers was officially inspected on Saturday afternoon by Lieutenant-Colonel Ibbetson, Assistant-Inspector of Volunteers.

The following advertisement should not be passed over:—"The undersigned, being a committee of officers commanding volunteer rifle corps in the metropolitan district, having observed that numerous schemes have been published purporting to be volunteer friendly societies, &c., decline to promise their support to any society for the present. A general scheme for Great Britain, with the patronage of the Secretary of State for War, is under consideration, which the public and the volunteers will be invited to join:—Lieutenant-Colonel Earl Grosvenor, Lieutenant-Colonel the Marquis of Donegal, Lieutenant-Colonel Hicks, Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. C. Lindsay, Col. Thorold, Major Beresford, Captain the Hon. T. Bruce, Captain Templar, Captain Glover, Captain Spottiswoode, and Captain Martineau."

On Saturday evening the 1st Kent Rifle Volunteers were presented with a pair of flags by Mrs. Randall, wife of the eminent banker of that name; and a pair of very handsome brass side drums by the widow of the late Colonel Fraser.



A SCENE AT THE EDINBURGH VOLUNTEER REVIEW.—(FROM A SKETCH BY C. DOYLE, ESQ.)



RICKETT'S STEAM-CARRIAGE FOR COMMON ROADS.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 144.

THE OLD ADMIRAL.

THE old Admiral has gone into dock to be thoroughly overhauled and put in order for another cruise in the spring of next year. The old Admiral is a tough old ship; has seen service in all parts of the world, and has stood his work well; but he has lately been firing away starboard and larboard, fore and aft, at such a rate that his timbers are so shaken by the recoil that he has been forced to succumb at last, strike his flag, and go into dock. He had leave to retire a fortnight back, and everybody thought that we had seen the last of him for this Session, and should hear his guns no more till the next. But one night last week, to the surprise of everybody, he once more hove in sight, cast anchor on his old ground, and had another shot at the Government. It was the Syrian question which drew him out. But he did not stop long; just fired his shot, and then shifted his helm and went back into port, and is now quietly laid up for the winter. What a curiosity is our old Admiral! Fighting men are not usually talking men, but here is a man who can fight and talk too. Indeed, there is no more pertinacious talker in the House than the old Admiral. Get him upon his old topics, ships, sailors, and the shortcomings and misdoings of the Admiralty, and he will go on talking for hours. Why he ever leaves off we are at times at a loss to understand. It is certainly not because the House refuses to listen, for the House never listens to him. As soon as he gets on his legs all who have letters to write, or who need refreshment, or are inclined for a quiet cigar, at once retire, knowing that they are quite safe for at least an hour. It is a common remark in the House and about it, "Napier's up, I shall go and dine, or I shall go and smoke;" and even the whips consider themselves at liberty to leave their posts when the old Admiral gets up. Nor does he leave off because he finishes, for he sails in a circle, and he who moves in a circle of course never really finishes his voyage. It is no reason with the Admiral that he should sit down when he has said all he has to say, for it is no uncommon thing when he has done this to go over the same course and say it again. We rather fancy that he sits down at last because his timbers fail him, for the old Admiral is seventy-four years of age, and though he is still gallant, plucky, and strong for his years, yet it is evident from his walk, and the slow and cautious manner in which he works his passage up stairs, that he is not what he was; and it must be some twinge about the knees that makes him sit down at last. Well, though he has added many hours to our labours, and often kept us out of our beds, we should be sorry to lose him, and will willingly pay the penalty to see him in his old place when the Session comes round again. Here, in conclusion, is a couple of anecdotes of the jolly old Admiral:—Some few years ago there was a Ministerial crisis, the Government was in imminent peril, and every possible exertion was made to secure votes. Now, on this occasion, the old Admiral was disaffected, and the question was how to make him all right. It was properly the whips' duty, of course, to undertake the task; but either—knowing the old Admiral—they had declined to attempt "to bell the cat," or else they had tried and failed. How this was we know not. But at length certain of the old Admiral's constituents were moved to try a little coercion, and a young gentleman from Bermondsey having some influence there was sent to put on the screw. "Want me?" said the old sea bear to the young gent who had sent for the old Admiral into the lobby. "Yes, Sir Charles, I do," said the deputy, taking off his hat, and then rubbing his hands together; "the fact is, Sir Charles, an influential body of your friends in Southwark have heard that you intend to desert the Government, and I have been deputed, Sir Charles, to come to you and ask you to reconsider your determination. Your constituents are very anxious, Sir Charles, that you should vote with the Ministry; indeed, they fear that if you do not your seat may be endangered," &c., &c. "You want me to vote for the Government?" "Yes, we do, Sir Charles," replied the young gentleman, again rubbing his hands, and putting on his politest manner. "I'll see you—first," growled the old sea bear, and straightway shifted his helm and scudded back into the House. Again:—"Sir Charles," said a member, "allow me to introduce you to Mr.—, one of the greatest travellers of the age." "How do; been to Syria?" "Yes, Sir Charles, and seen some of your work there." "Take a glass of grog?" "No, I thank you; I never drink strong drinks." "Not a teetotaler, are you?" "No, not exactly; at least not in theory." "Ugh," grunted the old Admiral, and scuffled off to his grog and cigar which were awaiting him on the terrace. On a fine summer's night the terrace is the old Admiral's favourite place of resort. He has a table brought out and a chair, and there he sits with his cigar in his mouth and a tumbler of grog before him for an hour or two together, sometimes with a friend or two, but not unfrequently all alone. There is a capital smoking-room hard by; but the old sailor naturally prefers the deck to the cabin.

IRISH SCRIMMAGE.—MR. CARDWELL.

A stranger in the House of Commons on Thursday, the 16th, would not have dreamed that the Session was near its end, for late in the evening between two and three hundred members were present, and all the Irish members were there, a circumstance perhaps unparalleled in the modern history of Parliament, for, as a rule, Irish members are all away across the Channel by the end of July. The reason why the Irish gentlemen have stuck to their posts so late in the year is because several Irish questions of great importance had not been settled. There was the Galway Packet business, the Peace Preservation Act, the Party Emblem Bill, and last, not least, the Irish Education vote, which came on on Thursday. All these questions involved "justice to Ireland;" and whilst these were in the balance of course no Irish member could with decency or safety leave. The *causa belli* on Thursday night was this:—The money voted annually by Parliament to the Irish schools amounts to nearly £300,000; the system of education is what is called the mixed system—that is to say, Catholic and Protestant children are educated together. The Irish Roman Catholic Bishops want this system to be abolished and to have a system of denominational education established in its stead, or, in other words, that each sect should have a proportionate share of the money, and educate its own children. The principal combatants were Mr. Cardwell and Mr. Serjeant Deasy on the part of the Government, and Mr. Maguire on the part of the Bishops. Mr. Cardwell, Secretary for Ireland, introduced the vote. An able man is Mr. Cardwell, a very able man; but of all the dreary speakers he is surely the dreariest. He can talk fluently enough; never, perhaps, was at a loss for a word in his life, and if you can follow him you will find that he is master of his subject, and knows how to handle it. And if you can but listen, and are deeply interested in the subject, you will no doubt be amply paid for your trouble; but he is so cold, so prolix; his voice is so monotonous; he moves on with such painful, earthen heaviness, never changing his attitude nor varying the tones of his voice, that it is ten to one but you fall asleep before he has been talking half an hour. Indeed, a speech from Mr. Cardwell we should take to be the finest soporific in the world. It is mesmerism. And he that can keep his eyes open beneath the influence of that constant, regular seesawing of arm and voice is certainly no "medium," but would resist all the power of the most practised adept at the mesmeric pass. Mr. Cardwell spoke for nearly two hours, but the only immediate effect of his long and laboured harangue seemed to be to empty the House. The Irish members wandered about the lobby or went to the restaurant to dinner, and the English members sauntered away. As a manifesto in Hansard Mr. Cardwell's speech may have its uses, but its immediate effect must have been very small, for few were present, and still fewer listened. An uninviting subject—a puzzle not to be penetrated without days and months of unwearied assiduity—is this Irish education question at all times, and certainly not under such a dull, stolid guide as Mr. Cardwell.

MR. MAGUIRE.

Mr. Maguire is a very different man to Mr. Cardwell; as different as a lively, imaginative, passionate Irishman is to a dull, politico-economical pedant. Mr. Maguire is a Roman Catholic, and, of course,

looks at all questions through the coloured, not to say distorted, glasses of his own creed; but he is an able, eloquent, and, what is better, an honest man. Indeed, we take Mr. Maguire to be the best specimen of an Irish member in the House. He has been in the House eight years, and every year he has strengthened his position. He sits on the Opposition side of the House, but he has not enrolled himself in the Conservative ranks. On the whole, we should say he is a supporter of the Government; occasionally, however, he votes against it. But when he supports it his support is not cringing, and when he opposes it he does it without bitterness. In short, he is a thoroughly independent man—mistaken sometimes, but never dishonest, one of those men—*rari nautis in gurgite vasto*—who come into Parliament for no selfish purpose; who ask nothing, want nothing, but are moved by an earnest desire to do what is right, whithersoever such a course may tend. We have watched Mr. Maguire for many years, and this is our verdict. Mr. Maguire's speech lasted two hours and a half. It was, from his point of view, an able and exhaustive résumé of the whole subject. There is one remarkable characteristic about Mr. Maguire's speeches. Unlike most of the Irish members, Mr. Maguire is never witty. He is too much in earnest to indulge in wit. Mr. Whiteside, it may be said, is both witty and earnest; but closer observers have long suspected that Whiteside's earnestness is not real—not earnestness at all, but mere effervescence pumped up for the occasion. When Whiteside defended O'Connell he was as fervid as he has ever been in the House of Commons, although it was notorious that in defending the great agitator he was arguing against his convictions. The fervour of a lawyer, and especially of one who is aiming at the Bench, must always be suspected.

MR. DEASY.

Mr. Serjeant Deasy, who replied to Mr. Maguire, is comparatively a new man in the House. He first made his appearance in 1855. Like most Irish barristers—and, indeed, most English barristers—he came to seek his fortune, and has been successful, for he is now Attorney-General, and on the high road to the Bench. Mr. Deasy is a Roman Catholic, but on this question of Irish education he is in direct opposition to the Irish Roman Catholic Bishops and the priests, and he will, probably, at the next election have to pay the penalty of exclusion from Parliament. The learned gentlemen is, like all Irishmen, an eloquent speaker; and when he was in opposition his speeches were characterised by a sober gravity rather unusual in Irish speeches, but since he has been in office his language and demeanour have undergone a marked but not uncommon change. When out of office his business was to bait others; now he is baited himself, and hence the difference. On this particular occasion he was as fast and furious as Whiteside. He had been twitted and taunted with a change of opinion since his advent to power. This galled and nettled him to the quick, and he shouted and raved, and every now and then got so excited that it was with difficulty that he could get his words out fast enough to express his excited feelings. Whether he succeeded in rebutting the charge we are unable to say, for, feeling no interest in the question, we were glad to escape from the noise and clatter. These Irish orators are not pleasant to listen to: you feel as if you were walking through a street in a storm, with the tiles of the houses and the chimney-pots rattling about your ears.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END.

There are all the symptoms now that the Session will soon close. The money is all voted. The House has thinned down to such a small minority of the whole that it is becoming every day more and more difficult to collect and keep together the requisite forty members; and on Monday night the Appropriation Bill was read a first time. The appearance of this bill upon the paper is a sure and certain sign of coming death—a sign which never fails. The House recognised this when the bill was read a first time, for as Mr. Laing carried it up to the table he was greeted by loud cheers. The Appropriation Bill is simply what its title indicates. The money is voted in Committee. The votes are embodied in, and the various sums are "appropriated" to, their respective uses by this bill. It takes six or seven days to pass this measure through both Houses, and until it be passed Parliament cannot be prorogued; and when it is passed nothing, except on extraordinary occasions, will keep the House. On Saturday the bill will have run its course; and on Tuesday or Wednesday at farthest the Session will end. It might end on Saturday if her most gracious Majesty were in England; but as it is, there must be three days allowed for a special messenger to go to Balmoral to get her Majesty's signature to the commission and return. "Why is not the commission sent earlier?" For this reason: every bill which requires the Royal assent must be named in the commission, and several bills, including the Appropriation Bill, will not have passed the Lords before Saturday. And so on Tuesday or Wednesday the end will come, and it is time; if for no other reason, for this—the proceedings in Parliament have become too farcical of late. On Saturday hundreds of thousands of pounds were voted by some twenty members; and on Monday night, when the Indian Loan Bill was under discussion, there were at the time only nine members present. Mr. Danby Seymour was speaking with great fervour, and this was his audience—six members on the Ministerial bench, two behind him, and on the Conservative benches none—not a soul! It must have been hard work for Mr. Seymour. Looking straight before him there was nothing but long rows of entirely empty benches; behind him sat Mr. Hadfield and Colonel Sykes in close conversation; and it was only on the Treasury bench that he could hope for an audience. But here, nobody seemed disposed to listen, except Sir Charles Wood, who, being Secretary for India, was of course obliged to listen or, at all events, to make a show of attention; all the rest were enjoying a cosy chat. This was truly speaking under difficulties an elaborate speech of half an hour long, with numerous quotations from blue-books, &c., and only one auditor. If we had been in Mr. Seymour's place we should have pocketed that speech for another occasion; but it must be remembered that the speech had cost no little time and labour; and, further, Mr. Danby Seymour was once at the India Board, is mortified that he is not there now, and means to get there again, if he can. There are two notable paths to office—to wit, supporting a Government, and bothering it. Mr. Seymour takes the latter road.

MR. BRIGHT ON TAXATION.—Mr. Bright has sent the following letter to the secretary of the Northern Reform Union, in reply to a resolution thanking him for his speech against the national defences:—"Rochdale, August 16, 1860. Dear Sir,—The resolution you have sent me has given me much pleasure. I am only sorry that my efforts have been so fruitless in the House of Commons. In many Sessions past—indeed, since the beginning of the Russian war—economy has been despised, and every man who has attempted to prevent a waste of the public resources has been condemned as unpatriotic and anti-national. The people have been hoodwinked and befuddled almost beyond all former example, and the 'services' which should be their servants and guardians have become their masters and spoilers. I know not when we shall see a change, but our late and present course cannot be continued without danger and disaster. Possibly we may see disappointments and reverses in trade which may drive us to take notice of the enormous sum which is annually and needlessly taken from the proceeds of the nation's industry. England, with its population of thirty millions, will raise seventy-two millions in Government taxes this year. The United States, with an estimated population of thirty-two millions, will raise about twelve millions in Federal and State Government taxes this year. How long will England maintain her position in the race with this burden, and what institution is there in the English system that is worth a tribute of sixty millions sterling a year? The time may come when the people will discover that monarchies and aristocracies may be purchased at too dear a rate, unless monarchies and aristocracies become more wise."

REVIVAL OF CAMBERWELL FAIR.—At an early hour on Monday morning the inhabitants of Camberwell New-road, near the Lambeth County Court, were aroused by hearing loud and continuous hammering, mingled with shouting and other unaccustomed sounds. It was then discovered that a fair of large dimensions had been established in an extensive field at the rear of Camberwell Chapel, and thereon had been established upwards of 200 booths, including a large equestrian tent, a theatre, an exhibition of moving models, refreshment booths, rifle galleries, &c., &c. Several of the inhabitants laid a complaint for the removal of the booths, &c., but they were informed that this could not be done without giving the parties seven days' notice; and, of course, by that time the fair would be over.

Imperial Parliament.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SUPPLY.

The House of Commons in a Committee of Supply resumed the discussion of the remaining estimates, which embraced various subjects of considerable public interest, the votes completing Supply.

In a Committee of Ways and Means a vote was taken of the surplus of Ways and Means and a sum out of the Consolidated Fund.

The report of the Committee of Ways and Means, and the report of the Committee of Supply, were severally brought up and agreed to, and, after some further business, the House adjourned at twenty minutes past five o'clock.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS:

THE SAVINGS BANKS BILL.

LORD REDESDALE, in reference to the renewal of the motion for the suspension of the standing order of the House for the purpose of allowing the Savings Banks and Friendly Societies Investment Bill to be read a second time, said that on consideration he had come to the conclusion that the rule which would allow a bill, the second reading of which had been postponed in consequence of an equality of votes on a division, to be brought forward again, applied to the standing order. After the strong opinion the Government had expressed as to the urgency of the bill, he should not offer any further opposition to it, and he would only ask Earl Granville to postpone the second reading from that evening.

The Earl of DONOUGHMORE and the Earl of MALMESBURY also expressed their intention of no longer opposing a bill on which the Government laid so much stress.

EARL GRANVILLE said that, although he agreed that the standing order limiting the time at which the House would read bills a second time was calculated to be of use in promoting the hastening of business in both Houses, yet on principle it could not be defended; and this year it was in a peculiar and exceptional position, owing to the unusual length of the Session.

After some remarks from Lord MONTAGUE and the Duke of ARGYLL, the subject dropped.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The Earl of MALMESBURY called the attention of her Majesty's Government to the expense and inconvenience of calling out detached corps of volunteers in rural counties to a distance from their headquarters for the purpose of inspection during times of peace.

EARL DE GREY and RIFON said that any inconvenience or expense incurred by volunteers by going out of their own districts was the result of their own free will; and the Government had granted facilities for the assembling of corps for the purposes of review by their own desire.

The Refreshment Houses and Wine Licenses (Ireland) Bill, the Industrial Schools Act Amendment Bill, and the Spirits Bill passed through Committee.

The Local Government Supplemental Bill, the Gas Metropolis Bill, and the Consolidated Fund (£10,000,000) Bill were read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WAYS AND MEANS.—MORE BORROWING.

In Committee of Ways and Means, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that he had a resolution to propose empowering him to raise £2,000,000 on Exchequer Bonds and Bills, instead of the £1,000,000 which he had formerly asked, to replace a million of Exchequer Bonds due in November next. The increase on the original estimate was caused by the prospects of the harvest, which, if a bad one, would entail much additional expenditure on the Government.

SIR H. WILLUGHBY, Mr. WILLIAMS, and Mr. HENLEY severally objected to this addition to the ways and means of the year, as well as to the absence of notice of the resolution. After a discussion the resolution was agreed to, with a promise that the sum to be raised should be repaid in six years.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and passed several votes, among them that for Canadian establishments, the civil establishment in China, the Regium Donum, the Militia and Army Estimates, and Civil Service Estimates.

THE DAHOMEY "CUSTOM."

MR. C. FORTESCUE stated, in answer to a question put by Lord FERMoy, that there was too much reason to believe that the King of Dahomey intended to make a sacrifice of human life to the manes of his deceased father; but whether he had carried out his intention or not was not known to her Majesty's Government. Instructions had, however, been dispatched to the British Admiral on the station and the Consul at Lagos to send a message to the King, warning him that, if he executed his atrocious design upon Abeokuta, the English force would at once take hostile measures against him.

LORD PALMERSTON added that when at the Foreign Office he sent two or three missions to the late King of Dahomey with the view of prevailing upon him to abandon these horrible practices. When the English agents arrived at the King's palace they found its walls hung round with the skulls of human beings who had been destroyed to give effect to religious ceremonies. The capital of Dahomey was situated at a considerable distance in the interior, and the road to it passed through jungles and marshes which it was scarcely possible for a European force to penetrate. He believed that the only course open to the British Government was to persuade the chiefs in the interior of the country to abandon the traffic in slaves, to which, unfortunately, they were stimulated by the citizens of civilised countries.

THE SYRIAN ATROCITIES.

MR. KINNAIRD asked whether any representations had been made to the Turkish Government, or whether any steps had been taken to influence them to demand the restoration of the Christian women carried off and sold by the Druses?

LORD PALMERSTON replied that instructions had been given to Lord Dufferin to take steps for the purpose, and that a communication had been addressed to the English Minister at Constantinople directing him to use his best exertions to induce the Turkish Government to co-operate with the noble Lord in carrying out that humane object. Lord Dufferin had been instructed, in common with the other Commissioners, to inquire into the state of the country, and suggest what system of government would be most conducive to the welfare of the people, and be most likely to prevent a recurrence of the late dreadful outrages.

Several other subjects, including the manner of conducting Irish business, the state of the militia, the recent accident at Dover, &c., were incidentally noticed.

MONDAY, AUGUST 20.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE SAVINGS BANKS BILL.

The Savings Banks and Friendly Societies Investments Bill was read a second time, after a discussion raised by Lord Montague.

FORTIFICATIONS.

On the second reading of the Fortifications Provision for Expenses Bill, The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH expressed his satisfaction at the course taken by the Government in providing in this manner for the defence of the country.

The bill was read a second time, as were the Customs (No. 2) Bill, the Stamp Duties (No. 2) Bill, the Peace Preservation (Ireland) Act Continuance Bill, and the Defences of the Realm Bill.

The Refreshment and Wine Licenses (Ireland) Bill, the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill, the Gunpowder Bill, and the Industrial Schools Act (1857) Amendment Bill were read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE SAVINGS BANKS BILL.

On the report of Supply, Mr. MELLOR, who had given notice to call attention to the refusal by the House of Lords to entertain a bill sent up from this House, entitled "A bill to make further provision with respect to moneys received from savings banks and friendly societies," and to the assumption by the House of Lords of the power of limiting the time and prescribing the conditions upon which bills sent up from the House of Commons shall be received and entertained by the House of Lords, said that after he had given that notice he was informed that the Government proposed to give the House of Lords an opportunity of reconsidering the course they had taken. Since then the Lords had consented to allow the bill to be read a second time on the ground of urgency. He should therefore postpone his motion on the subject until next Session.

LORD CLYDE AND THE INDIAN OFFICERS.

SIR DE L. EVANS explained a mistake which had been made with regard to a statement attributed to Lord Clyde, that officers of the local Indian Army were not competent to hold divisional commands; and he read a letter from the noble Lord denying that statement.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE.

MR. LINDSAY called attention to the enormous public expenditure; pointing out that the estimate of the year by the Chancellor of the Exchequer had already been exceeded by six millions, making the amount above £76,000,000. He urged that this large expenditure, which was not perhaps felt while the country was prosperous, contained within it an element of

great danger, in the event of a bad harvest or any change in our present prosperity. One of the causes of expenditure was our naval preparations against France; and the result was that whereas France had 263 screw-vessels afloat, this country had no less than 492; while we had a greater number of iron-clad frigates than France had. Except passing the commercial treaty with France, all that had been done this Session was to spend.

A few remarks in the same sense were made by Mr. HADFIELD.

Lord C. PAGET said, in reference to Mr. Lindsay's statements as to the relative strength of the French and English navies, that it was taken from a French pamphlet, which gave us 63 line-of-battle ships, whereas we had only 52 screw line-of-battle ships, and nine block ships. The pamphlet omitted to state that France was building ten iron-clad frigates, and we were only building four.

Mr. V. SCULLY made some remarks against the vast expenditure of the year. He wished it to be understood that there should be no Reform Bill next Session, and that the Session would begin instead of ending with the estimates. The House should also have an early opportunity of reasserting its taxing privileges, of which they had been deprived.

Mr. NEWDEGATE, among other economies, recommended economy of time, and urged that retrospective declaration on the shortcomings of the Session was unavailing now, and a waste of time.

THE POST OFFICE.

Mr. DANBY SEYMOUR asked if the Post Office Commission would inquire into the inefficient manner in which letters were conveyed all over the country, great delays occurring in their delivery between places at very short distances from each other?

Mr. LAING said there was no commission of inquiry into the Post Office, but a committee of officers of the establishment was inquiring into matters of internal arrangements. The subject referred to by the hon. member was referable to the Postmaster-General.

SYRIA.

Mr. MONSELL, referring to a question he had put on Friday with regard to the instructions given to Lord Dufferin, our Commissioner in Syria, asked Lord Palmerston to explain his answer on that occasion, which was in effect an approval of the present system of government of that country, and which was calculated to give an impression of encouragement to the Druses. The right hon. gentleman read certain documents to show that the Druses were the first aggressors in the recent disturbances, and complicity on the part of the Turkish authorities against the Maronites. He expressed an opinion that it was useless to attempt to maintain the Turkish empire.

Lord PALMERSTON regretted that the right hon. gentleman should have decided on the dismemberment of the Turkish empire while he had not suggested to what Power Syria was to be apportioned. He (Lord Palmerston) desired the maintenance of that Power, not from any particular respect for the Turkish character, but because the dismemberment of that empire could only be accompanied by a European war. The right hon. gentleman had also not mentioned what Power he wished to see at Constantinople. The disturbances in Syria arose from the weakness and bad conduct of the Turkish authorities; but the Turkish Government had, through Fuad Pacha, taken vigorous and successful steps to put an end to them. The facts were, that for several months before the outbreak there were rumours among the Christians that such an outbreak would occur in the spring. Large supplies of European arms—he did not know where they came from—were distributed among the Maronites, and the first actual outbreak was the burning of some Druse villages by the Maronites. Not long ago Lord Cowley, conversing with M. Thouvenel, said the first aggression had come from the Maronites, and M. Thouvenel said he thought so too, and that the Maronite priests had excited their people to aggression, though this was, however, no excuse for the atrocities committed by the Druses.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

On the vote for the National Gallery, Mr. CONINGHAM renewed his objections to it, and urged the postponement of the consideration of the whole question to another year. Lord PALMERSTON said that what was now proposed was absolutely necessary in reference to the national collection, without predicting any future arrangements.

Some discussion followed before the report of the vote was received.

CIVIL CONTINGENCIES.

On the vote for civil contingencies, Mr. E. JAMES called attention to an item of above £3000 paid to certain Parliamentary agents for drawing the Reform Bill of 1858, complaining of such a charge; there was a regular salaried officer of the Government whose duty it was to draw all bills. He also complained of a charge of £2620 for a return of the male occupiers of houses at £6 rental which had proved so fallacious. He caused much amusement by referring to two charges of £56 and £65 for entertainments to Mr. Gladstone on his way to the Ionian Islands, and to the King of the Sandwich Islands.

Mr. LAING explained that the return alluded to was ordered by the House. From time immemorial it was the custom to pay for the entertainment of distinguished persons having passages on board Her Majesty's ships. As to the charge for the preparation of the Reform Bill, that concerned the late Government, as it was their bill, the circumstances of which, however, were altogether exceptional. He pointed out that the Army and Navy Estimates had been brought in and discussed in February, while there had been a decrease in the Civil Estimates of £300,000.

Mr. MALINS expressed a hope that no other Reform bills, costing so much time and money, would be brought in next Session.

Mr. FROST moved that the vote for preparing the Reform Bill be struck out.

Mr. GLADSTONE said this was only an account rendered of a sum already paid and voted in the Civil Contingencies of last year, and was past and gone.

THE KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

On the vote of £17,000 for the Kensington Museum, Mr. CONINGHAM moved its rejection. On a division it was retained by 60 to 21.

Mr. V. SCULLY moved the rejection of the vote of £2000 for a Model School at Cork.

On a division it was retained by 58 to 13.

THE APPROPRIATION CLAUSE.

The Appropriation Bill was brought up and read a first time, amidst cheers. The East India Loan Bill was read a third time and passed, after an irrelevant discussion on the subject of the Indian army. Other business having been disposed of, the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE INDIAN LOAN.

The Duke of ARGYLL, in moving the first reading of the East India Loan Bill, stated that its object was to enable the Secretary of State for India to raise in this country by loan a sum of £3,000,000. Having briefly stated the cases why such a loan would be necessary, the bill was read a first time. Their Lordships adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW ZEALAND.

On the order for the second reading of the New Zealand Bill, sent down from the Lords, Lord PALMERSTON said, in the present state of the Session there would not be time to discuss a measure so important, involving principles of colonial legislation, and moved that the order be discharged.

Sir J. FARRINGTON complained of the conduct of the Government in relation to this bill, and of some discourtesy towards himself. The measure, in his opinion, was open to the most serious objection.

Mr. C. FORTESCUE defended the object of the bill. After some further discussion, the motion was agreed to, and the bill withdrawn.

NAVAL DISCIPLINE.

The House then went into Committee upon the Naval Discipline Bill, when Lord C. PAGET explained the object and general features of the bill and the provisions relating to the constitution of courts-martial, to the definition of crimes, and to punishments. Under the latter head the bill proposed to give power to courts-martial to graduate punishment from the maximum penalty of death, and to find offenders guilty of lesser crimes who were charged with greater. On the subject of corporal punishment it was proposed that, except in cases of open mutiny, it should not be inflicted without previous inquiry by one or more officers of the ship, whose report would not bind the Captain, who might, on his responsibility, forego or inflict the punishment.

Sir J. FARRINGTON, Mr. W. Williams, and Sir C. Napier briefly discussed the bill, the several clauses of which were agreed to, with certain amendments.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES.

The adjourned debate on the amendment (to leave out clause 1) on consideration of the Roman Catholic Charities Bill, as amended, was then resumed.

Upon a division, the amendment (which had been moved by Sir G. Bowyer) was negatived by 70 to 13.

Mr. HENNESSY, whose name was at the back of the bill, after this decision, disowned any further connection with a measure which had now, he said, the character of a penal enactment.

Sir G. BOWYER, who had introduced the bill, complained of the treatment

he had received from the Government, through the Attorney-General, who had, he said, thrown him over at the very last moment.

Mr. NEWDEGATE thought the Roman Catholics had no ground of complaint.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL justified his proceeding in relation to the bill, and had something to say in the way of complaint against Sir G. Bowyer.

Mr. MAGUIRE moved the adjournment of the debate. A series of explanations followed relative to a projected compromise by the substitution of a clause prepared by Mr. Puller for that contained in the bill.

Sir G. BOWYER reiterated his protest against the treatment he supposed he had received, and in terms which brought upon him a rebuke from the Chair.

Lord PALMERSTON emphatically denied that the Government had conducted themselves in any manner to afford in the slightest degree the shadow of a ground for the violent vituperation in which, he said, Sir G. Bowyer had indulged.

The motion for adjournment of the debate was withdrawn, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION.

On the consideration of the Lords' amendment of the Ecclesiastical Commission, &c., Bill.

Mr. OSBORNE took occasion to make some remarks condemnatory of the raising the salary of the Dean of York, which, he thought, called for some explanation from the Government; and he moved as an amendment of one of the Lords' amendments that in all cases of any scheme proposed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, by which the income of any ecclesiastical dignity shall be altered or increased, the same should be laid before the two Houses of Parliament six weeks before the issue of the order in Council.

Sir G. LEWIS objected that this amendment was not relevant to the amendment of the Lords, and declined to put the question.

After further discussion the Lords' amendments were agreed to.

PARTY STRIFE IN IRELAND.

On the report on the Party Emblems (Ireland) Bill, Mr. VANCE offered objections, which were replied to by Mr. Cardwell, and the report was agreed to.

Other bills were forwarded, and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MR. EVELYN.

Mr. COCHRANE inquired of the Home Secretary whether, considering the high character of Mr. Evelyn, the Sheriff of Surrey, the estimation in which he was held by the county, and the misapprehension under which he seemed to have issued the placard relating to the clearance of the Assize Court, the Government intended to advise her Majesty to remit the fine imposed upon him by the Judges?

Sir G. C. LEWIS stated in reply that he had no doubt respecting the high character of Mr. Evelyn, but if he desired to obtain a remission of the penalty his proper course would be, not to have questions put in the House of Commons, but to petition her Majesty through the Secretary of State for the Home Department. He had not yet, however, received any communication from Mr. Evelyn which showed that he had acted under a misapprehension; but he had seen the placard, and it appeared to be highly objectionable, and such as to justify the proceedings adopted by the Judges.

THE METROPOLITAN CHURCHES.

In Committee of Progress on the Union of Benefices Bill, Mr. HUBBARD moved as an addendum to clause 14, which authorises the sale and removal of metropolitan churches, the words "that the scheme for the removal of any church or parsonage shall provide for the erection of another church or parsonage within the limits of the metropolis."

The motion was agreed to, and the clause so amended ordered to stand part of the bill.

A clause was also agreed to, on the motion of Mr. VANCE, to the effect that no scheme for carrying out the provisions of the bill should be submitted to her Majesty in Council until it had been laid on the table of both Houses of Parliament for two months.

CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

On the order for the third reading of the Roman Catholic Charities Bill, Mr. BUTT moved that the order be discharged, with a view to the recommitment of the measure.

Sir G. C. LEWIS opposed the motion, and on the part of the Government disclaimed any desire whatever to confiscate the property of Roman Catholic charities. If the bill were allowed to pass, it would place those charities in an intelligible and perfectly secure position. If, however, it should be found in practice that the bill was open to the objections entertained against it by the Catholic members, he was sure the House would readily repair any defect which might be shown to exist in it.

Some mutual explanations of a personal character between Sir G. Bowyer, Lord Palmerston, and the Attorney-General followed, and Mr. Butt's motion having been withdrawn, the bill was read a third time and passed.

The Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill and the Exchequer Bonds or Bills (£2,000,000) Bill were passed through Committee.

The Militia Pay Bill and the Metropolitan Police Force (Dockyards) (No. 2) Bill were read a third time and passed.

The Metropolitan Local Management Act Amendment Bill was withdrawn.

The amendments to the Court of Chancery Bill were agreed to, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

The Party Emblems Bill was also read a third time and passed without further opposition.

The Church Temporalities (Ireland) Acts Amendment Bill passed through Committee.

The Debtors and Creditors Act Amendment Bill; the Coast of Africa, &c., Act Amendment Bill; and the Offences within her Majesty's Possessions Abroad Bill, were respectively read a third time and passed.

The other business on the paper was then disposed of, and the House adjourned until two o'clock on Thursday.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Excise Duties Bill, the East India Loan Bill, and the Spirit Duties Bill were read a second time.

NAVAL DISCIPLINE BILL.

The amendments of the Commons on this bill were, on the motion of the Duke of SOMERSET, agreed to.

The Appropriation Bill was read a first time.

THE COURT OF CHANCERY BILL AND THE ENDOWED CHARITY BILL.

The Lord Chancellor announced that the Commons had agreed to their Lordships' amendments.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.

Mr. CONINGHAM moved for a return of all the pictures purchased for the National Portrait Gallery, with the price paid for each picture, and the name of the person from whom each picture was purchased. The return was ordered.

THE SUZ CANAL.

In answer to Mr. H. SEYMOUR, Lord PALMERSTON said it was true that the Pacha of Egypt had taken a large number of shares in the Suez Canal Company. That company was one of the most remarkable attempts at delusion practised in modern times. A great number of small persons in France had taken shares in the company, and the progress of the works had been such as to show that if they were not absolutely impracticable they would require more money, time, and labour, than would be within the reach of any country. The projectors of the company, finding that some of their shares had been repudiated, induced the Pacha to take up 64,000 shares, amounting to 32,000,000*fr.* M. Lesseps wanted the Pacha to take up more shares, and on his refusal M. Lesseps placed another large number of shares to his credit, amounting to ninety-five millions of francs. When the Pacha was called upon to pay all that money, he hoped that, for his sake and that of the company, it would be forthcoming (Laughter). The Pacha had contracted a loan through Messrs. Laiffre, and had mortgaged his private property, but the French Government had nothing to do with it. There was nothing in the convention to prevent the Pacha from doing what he liked with his private property. No negotiations were going on between England and France on the subject of the Suez Canal, and Mr. Cobden had not received any instructions on the subject.

Mr. FROST inquired whether Mr. Cobden was our Minister at Paris, and whether he had superseded Lord Cowley?

Lord PALMERSTON said that Mr. Cobden had authority, in conjunction with Lord Cowley, to negotiate what remained of the treaty.

The Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill, the Exchequer Bonds or Bills (£2,000,000) Bill, the Endowed Charities Bill, and the Naval Discipline Bill were read a third time and passed.

DIVORCE COURT BILL.

This bill having been read a second time, after some discussion, THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL made an earnest appeal to the House to be allowed to go into committee on the bill at once.

THE SPEAKER put the question, and, no opposition having been expressed, the House went into Committee, and the various clauses were agreed to.

Mr. MALINS proposed that the operation of the bill should be limited to July 31, 1861, in order that there might be future opportunities for legislation.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he would assent to the bill being limited to July 31, 1862.

Several other bills were advanced a stage.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.

On the evening of the 17th a terrible fire occurred at West Kent Wharf, Southwark. The premises were of great magnitude, being about five or six stories in height, and in them were stored property—consisting of lard, bacon, grain, oil, &c. &c.—roughly estimated in value at £2,000,000. For many hours, despite the efforts of many land engines and the two enormous floating machines, the fire raged furiously. As an exception to the general rule, the origin of this fire is known. A man named Davis, a collecting-clerk, having neglected to ship off a quantity of bales of rags, and being anxious to complete the order that night, went into the jute-room and lighted the gas, when the flame seized upon a number of bales of jute and set them in a blaze. The whole of the property destroyed was insured.

The following night a fire of nearly as formidable a character occurred at Ratcliffe Highway, on the premises of Messrs. Parkinson and Salmon, wholesale biscuit-bakers. It is stated that the extensive premises were filled with flour goods ready for shipment for the expedition to China. Several houses, large and small, in the vicinity of the bakery also caught fire, and at different points the conflagration was not subdued for twenty hours after the outbreak. Unfortunately, many of the smaller houses—let for lodgings chiefly—were uninsured.

The same night the premises belonging to Messrs. A. M. Dennis and R. E. Lee, printers' pressmakers, No. 3, Giltspur-street, West Smithfield, were discovered to be on fire. Unfortunately there was at the time on the premises a series of models showing the improvements in the construction of printing presses from the time of Caxton to the present day. Together with a vast amount of other valuable property, the models were entirely destroyed.

On Sunday morning the premises of Mr. Bucknell, currier, Limehouse, were discovered to be burning, and considerable injury was done to the stock and building before the flames could be extinguished.

HARVEST PROSPECTS.—The *Post*, after reviewing the gloomy prospects of the harvest at home, says:—"Happily for our friends the consumers, others have been more fortunate than ourselves. The last returns from America dwell in glowing terms upon the long-delayed arrival of a year of plenty. The corn crops are everywhere abundant, and the consequent rise in 'the fall traffic' has been attended with the most beneficial effects to the shaky financial prospects of the American railways. We may look for large transatlantic shipments of bread-stuffs of all descriptions. There is even a rumour of an intention on the part of some enterprising Yankees to compete with us in a field which had hitherto been regarded as peculiarly our own, and to stock our market with American beavers. From the Danubian provinces a similar report is made. Those fertile plains, which have been well termed 'the granary of Europe,' are this year teeming with more than their ordinary fertility. Large cargoes will soon be on their way to this country from the mouth of the Danube. Whatever may be the losses of individuals, Mr. Bright is not likely to be able to congratulate himself, this year, upon the season of scarcity, upon the occurrence of which all his hopes of power are avowedly based. Serious as such a communication is, it is not improbable that the country at large may continue to prefer the blessings of cheap food and plentiful employment even to those of a Manchester Premiership; nay, it may even be content to enjoy the comforts of plenty at some sacrifice of the political vivacity which we know from the best authority demands the stimulus of want and distress."

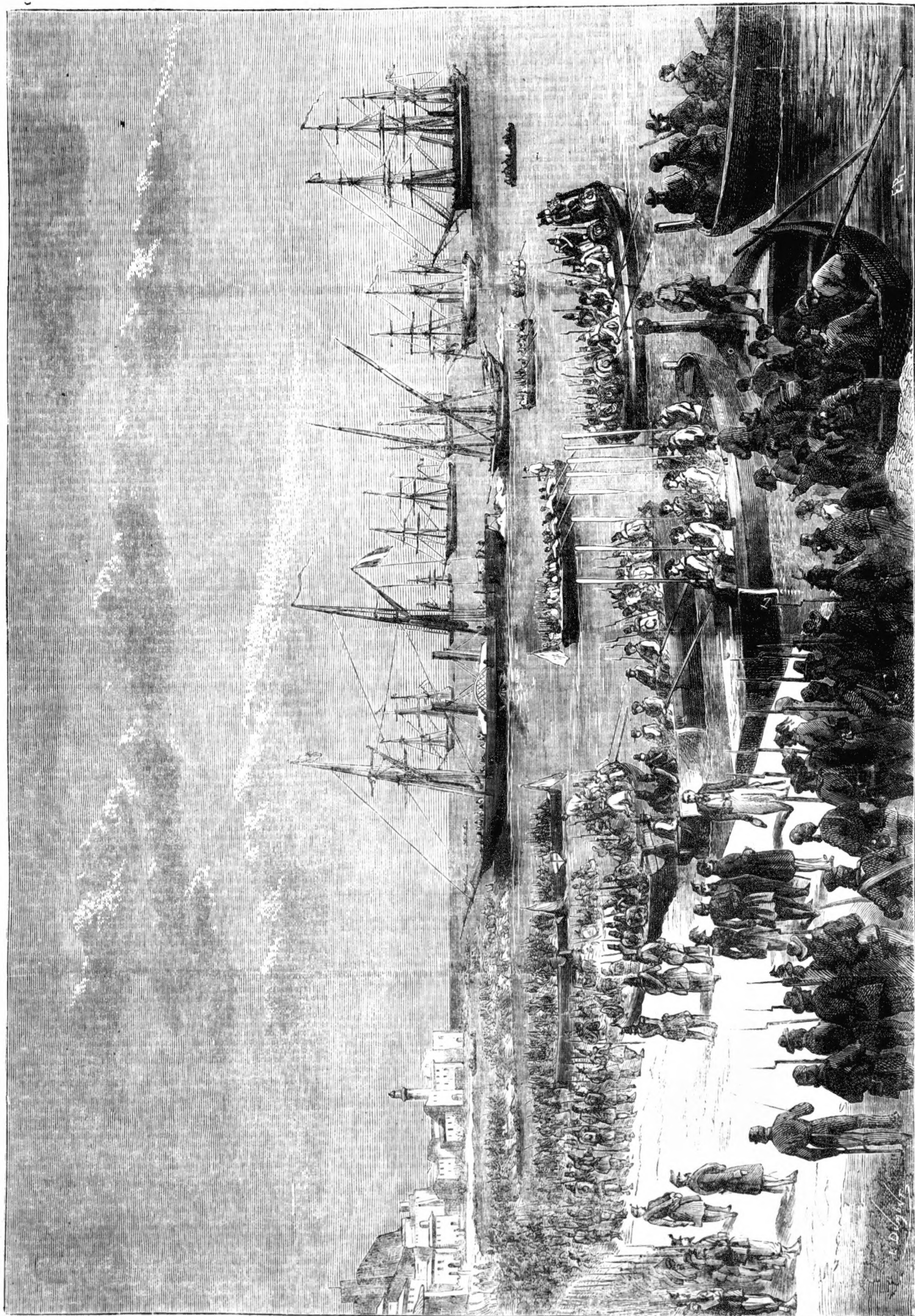
THE PRUSSIAN ARMY.—A pamphlet has just appeared from the pen of Prince Frederic Charles of Prussia, commander of the 3rd Corps. It is entirely on military affairs, and contains not only an essay, already known, on the best manner of fighting the French, but another, in which the author discusses the best means of giving the German soldier a course of training which shall render him superior to the French soldier, and on bringing him into closer connection with his officers, by removing the hitherto impassable barrier between the two. "You must lead none but free men to victory, or victory you will not achieve," are the concluding words of the pamphlet.—The *Prussian Annals* contains an article by Colonel Schaumburg on the reorganisation of the army. The writer states that the future Prussia will be in a condition to have in the field an army of 339,000 men, at the same time that she would keep at home 241,000 well-disciplined troops. By adding to that force, at a moment of crisis, 200,000 men, between the age of thirty-two and thirty-nine, belonging to the second band of the Landwehr, the total number of the disposable force would be brought up to 780,000.

THE POPE'S CLEMENCY.—The *Opinion Nationale* says:—"We receive from Rome numerous letters which all agree in contradicting the news circulated by several journals that all the political prisoners belonging to the Romagnas have been released. The fact is that they all, without a single exception, remain in irons. Some few prisoners (the *Opinion* gives their names) were set at liberty on June 24, but none of them were from the Romagnas. Of these very few, almost all, had but a few weeks or days to remain in prison before the terms of their sentences would expire, and the majority return to their families afflicted with incurable diseases contracted during their confinement. 'What masters!' said the priest, 'we have done our best to save their souls.' A favourite device of the Roman Government when it wishes to gain credit for clemency is to remit an illusory portion of a heavy sentence, particularly in cases where the recipient of the favour has already suffered so much that he is not likely to live to enjoy it. In most countries, when a criminal is thought to deserve more than twenty years' imprisonment he is sentenced for life, or sometimes, which is more humane, to death. But here forty years at the galleys is quite a common thing. But this is not all; political vengeance inflicts a sentence of fifteen or twenty years in irons even after death. In these cases the skeleton of the prisoner, when he dies, is kept unburied and in irons. When the Pope thinks it desirable to show mercy, the number of years of imprisonment remitted is deducted in the first instance from those to be suffered after death, so that many whose names are paraded as instances of his Holiness's clemency have no hope but to die in the galleys, and have no other ground for rejoicing than this—that the fetters will be removed from their bones while their rottenness is in a somewhat less advanced state than they were originally led to anticipate. Giovanni Lucenti, a Roman, now lies in prison, working out a sentence of thirty-six years in irons. The Pope has just granted him a remission of twenty-five months! Lucenti, since he has been in prison, has lost a leg and an eye, has become deaf in one ear has a tumour in his liver, a chronic disease of the chest, and a squarous affection of the epigastrium."

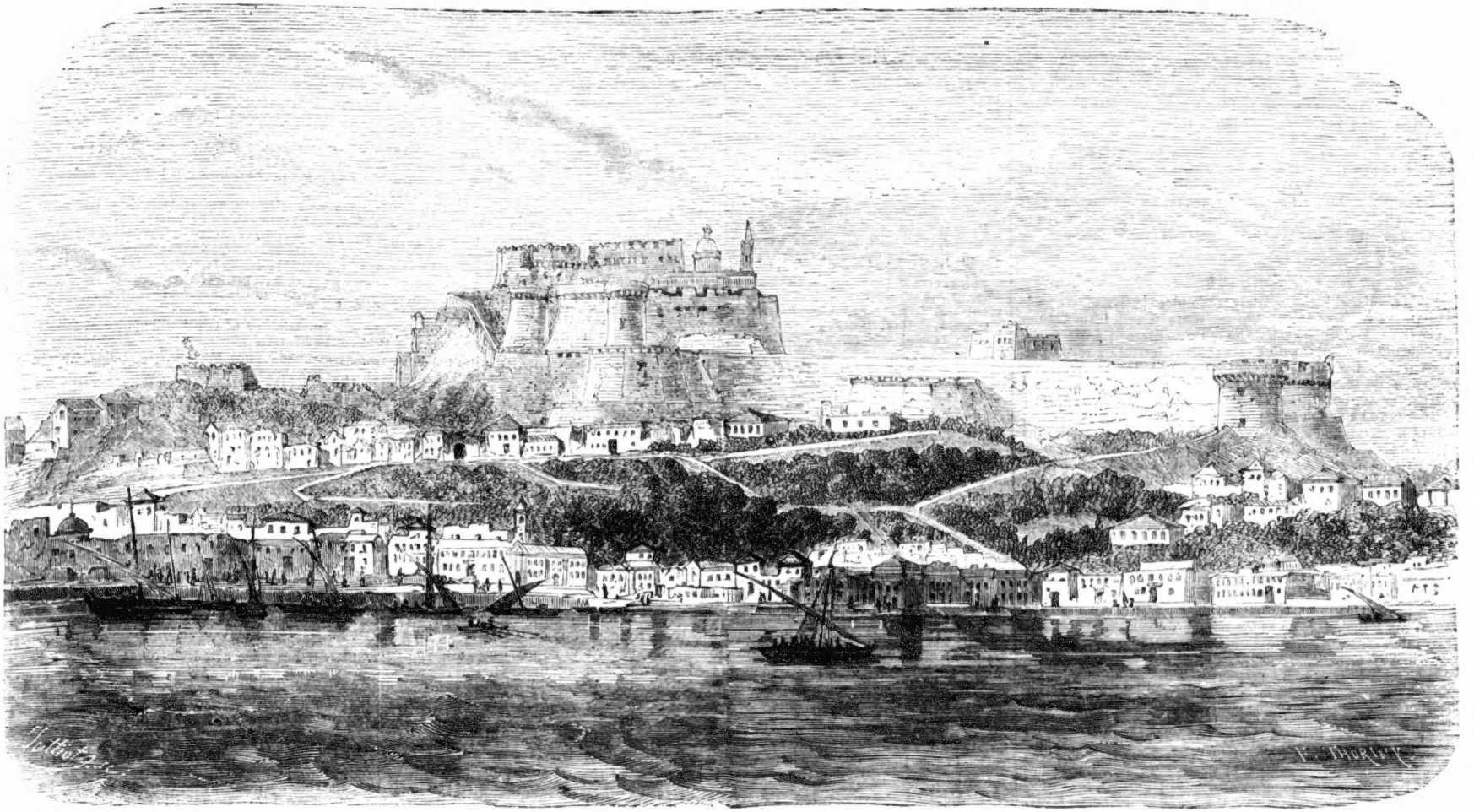
RELIGION IN RUSSIA.—A letter from Warsaw in the *Augsburg Gazette* says:—"The Government is still very severe in religious matters. Recently a M. Tokarski, a Roman Catholic, married a Russian lady of the Greek Church, but the priest who performed the ceremony forgot to make them sign a written engagement to bring up their children in the orthodox religion. When a child was born M. Tokarski had it baptised in the Catholic Church. That fact was denounced to the authorities, and in virtue of an Imperial ukase just issued the priest has been incorporated as a private soldier in the army, and M. Tokarski has been thrown into prison and there remains."

ARSENIC AS A PURIFIER OF THE THAMES.—"If," says Dr. Letheby, "perchloride of iron were used for the disinfection of sewage, as much as one part of arsenic would exist in 3000 of the sediment," and the accumulation of it in the bed of the river might at any time serve to frustrate the ends of justice in cases of alleged poisoning by arsenic where the poisoner could manage to consign his victim to the river Thames. If perchloride of iron be used as a disinfectant of the Thames there will be cast into the river not less than a hundred weight and a half of arsenic daily.

THE TAFFEE PERRAQUE CASE.—This case was, after three years' litigation, decided on Friday week by the Committee for Privileges of the House of Lords in favour of the claimant. The claimant, Charles, tenth Viscount Taffee, and Baron of Ballymore, a Count of the Holy Roman Empire, and a General in the Austrian service, is the representative of one of the most ancient families in Ireland. Sir Richard Taffee was a warrior of the time of Edward I., and at the end of the thirteenth century one of the family was Archbishop of Armagh. In the civil war the Taffees were staunch and gallant cavaliers. Their viscounty was obtained from Charles I. in commemoration of Sir William Taffee's victory over the Spaniards at Kinsale. Charles II. raised Theobald, second Viscount Taffee, who was a formidable foe of Cromwell, to an earldom, as Earl of Carlingford, but that title is now extinct. Later the Lords Taffee have resided in Austria, and have been great people there, one of the family being the famous Nicholas Count Taffee who beat the Turks at Belgrade. Of the claimant's (the present Viscount Taffee) pedigree there was no doubt before the Lords, but some difficulty arose as to whether the long residence in Austria of the family had not made them aliens. Lord Taffee was, however, able to show, after considerable argument as to the admission of certain evidence, that his grandfather Rudolph, the seventh Viscount, was born in London, and thus, by virtue of an Act of George III., he himself had become a British subject. The present Viscount Taffee has large estates, and a seat called the Castle of Ellichau, in Bohemia.



GENERAL BOSCO EVACUATING MELAZZO. - (FROM A SKETCH BY DE RAND BEAUGER.)



MELAZZO.—(FROM A SKETCH BY DURAND BRAGER.)

MELAZZO.

THE public interest is still directed towards Melazzo, as the latest scene of Garibaldi's triumph—a fitting termination to his brilliant victory having occurred in the evacuation of the place by the Neapolitan troops and of General Bosco. "Negotiations were first opened," says M. Durand Brager, "by messages between Garibaldi and the Captain of the *Protée*, who had obtained permission to communicate with the Neapolitan General. Although the four Government frigates which appeared before Melazzo gave some hopes to the garrison, a short time sufficed for the Sicilian army to accumulate the means of defence, and, as if by enchantment, a six-gun battery was thrown up at the foot of the fort, while another of four guns covered it from a position near the bridge at the end of the bay. These, with the long-range guns of the *Vélocé*, were sufficient to secure the means of defence for the entire

army. But it soon became known that the Neapolitan vessels had received no orders to resume hostilities, and the result of the conference was the relinquishing of Melazzo to Garibaldi. The officers were allowed to leave with arms, as were also the troops, except that their pouches were emptied of ammunition. The guns of the fortress were divided, but even here the treachery of the Neapolitans was manifest, for, after the evacuation, it was discovered that they had spiked ten of the guns which it had been agreed they should leave in the fort. They, however, reckoned without their host, for Garibaldi, furious at this breach of trust, immediately repaired on board the vessel of the Neapolitan Admiral, and compelled him to send back ten of his guns in exchange."

The Engraving on the opposite page represents the embarkation of the Neapolitan troops, who were not received by the Garibaldians without

manifestations of hatred, and it is even said that General Bosco had to be protected against the fury of the troops. The town of Melazzo, which is indeed the ancient Myla, has been the theatre of some of the most remarkable engagements in ancient and modern times. Situated as it is, on the promontory of the north coast, about twenty-five miles from Messina, and not more than two miles distant from the main road which leads along the seashore from Palermo to Messina, Melazzo is of the utmost importance as a citadel. The town itself lies at the foot of the fortifications, which occupy a space of half a square mile, and are at such an elevation as to render them almost totally inaccessible. Indeed, this rock upon which they are built is visible long before you reach the coast. There are both an upper and lower town, occupying about the same space as the citadel itself, and but irregularly built. The ordinary population is 10,000. Melazzo can boast of a very good harbour, and the ship's



DRUSES OF THE LEBANON.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. COUVRECHET.)

trade of the place has been tunny, wine, silk, fruit, oil, corn, and rags. The whole place is so strongly fortified both by nature and art as to be almost impregnable; since, besides the enormous fortifications, the deep beds of the torrent rivers are so many positions guarding the approach towards Messina. As the road leads close to the sea the right of a defending army is always safe on that side, while on the other the rapid mountain slopes and the almost complete absence of transverse roads make the position equally safe. This is, above all, the case in the neighbourhood of Melazzo, where a long mountain spur, called the Pizzo di Papacuri, runs down close to the sea. On the right flank of it lies the peninsula on which stands the Castle of Melazzo. From this point backwards the mountain approaches closer and closer to the sea, making all operations over the mountains more and more difficult, until you come to Gesso, where the road turns to the south-east, and, traversing the chain, descends into Messina.

THE DRUSES.

THE horrible events which have lately taken place in Syria have made the name of Druse familiar to us, and yet there is very little popular knowledge of the habits of the people so called. Scarcely a day passes without their being associated with deeds of such terrible atrocity that a cry for vengeance has already gone out against them. They are mysterious alike in their remorseless cruelty and their habits as a people, since, after all, but little is known either of their origin, their religion, or the laws by which they are governed. Occupying the chain of the Libanus in Syria, and speaking Arabic, the Druses are under the government of their own chiefs, and the dominion of their Emir extends as far south as the sources of the Jordan, and to the north part of Libanus and the latitude of Tripoli. The capital of the Emir of the Druses is Deir-el-Kamr, situated in a fine valley on the west slope of Libanus, some eight or ten hours' ride south-east of Beyrout. The town, which is said to have about six thousand inhabitants, is built in the Italian style, and bears some resemblance to a country town of Italy.

The whole religion of the Druses seems to be involved in considerable obscurity, and it has been stated that they celebrate certain mysteries to divulge which would be certain death. The Druses are divided into three classes—the Djabelin, or the ignorant, the partially initiated, and the adepts or fully initiated. As to the nature of their secret doctrine, De Saey gives an account of it; but how far it can be relied upon is still a question with some, as it depends on the authenticity of the book from which his information has been gleaned. It appears, however, pretty certain that the Druses were originally disciples of Hakem-biamr Illar, the sixth Fatemite Caliph of Egypt, who, in the eleventh century, established a sort of secret sect at Cairo, divided into nine degrees, the last of which declared the utter indifference of all human actions. The Assassins themselves were a derivation of Hakem's sect, which was itself an offshoot of the great schism of the Ismaelites, a remnant of which still exists in Syria, in the mountains east of Fortosa, near their ancient stronghold, Maszayd. Hakem, the founder of the sect, disappeared, probably by assassination; but his disciples assert that he will reappear, and that he will reign over the world. The Druses are said to believe in transmigration, and they are said to worship a calf's head, probably as some typical expression of a mythical idea. They have been accused of licentious orgies in their secret meetings, and yet it is asserted that when a young Druse becomes initiated he leaves his former licentious course of life and becomes quite an example of morality to his former companions. Silk is the staple article for exportation; cotton is also cultivated and manufactured; and the plains, especially the Beke, produce corn. Among the mountains are scattered a number of convents, and at Ain-el-Warka there is a College for the study of Syriac. The Druse costume is different from that of the Maronites. The men wear a coarse woollen cloak, black, with white stripes, thrown over a waistcoat and loose breeches of the same material, tied round the waist by a sash of red linen, with fringed ends, and their turban is swelled out from the head into a shape resembling a turnip. The whole of the Druses are trained to the use of arms, and it is said that, in case of need, the Emir could muster some 40,000 men in a very short space of time. The palace of the Emir, an hour's ride from Deir-el-Kamr, has been described as being vast, and the apartments handsomely furnished, well paved with marble, and adorned with rich draperies, divans, and richly-carved ivory ornaments.

ACCIDENT IN THE ALPS.

ON Wednesday, the 15th inst., three English travellers—Mr. J. M. Rochester and Mr. F. Vavasour, both of Cardiff, and Mr. B. Fuller, of London—left the Montanvert, near Chamouni, at five o'clock in the morning, with the intention of crossing the Col du Géant, for Cormayeur, attended by three guides, of whom Frederic Tairraz, the brother of the well-known Jean Tairraz, who keeps the Hotel de Mont Blanc at Aosta, was the chief; a porter carrying their knapsacks. The weather seemed favourable. Some time, however, before they reached the summit a thick fog came on, accompanied by a storm of hail and rain.

The travellers were extremely fatigued by the long ascent, rendered more difficult by a recent fall of snow, into which they sank up to their knees. This, and the state of the weather, caused the guides to urge them to turn back. They, however, refused to comply with this advice, alleging that they were too tired to return, and preferred proceeding. At about four o'clock in the afternoon they reached the summit. The travellers had been tied together by a new rope, of sufficient strength, at intervals of ten feet; two guides held the ends of the rope twisted round their hands, one preceding the party, the other following, while Tairraz walked with the travellers, grasping the rope from time to time. In this manner they descended for a considerable distance without any accident, the guides continually urging the travellers to plant their heels firmly in the snow, and to walk as steadily as they were able. About six o'clock they reached a place where it is necessary to traverse a steep projecting ridge by a muddy and slippery path, the descent of which was, however, gradual. The path was then covered by fresh and sloppy snow to the depth of about a foot. The tired travellers were advancing on this path with unsteady steps, when all at once, at the very angle of the ridge, one of them slipped, fell, and dragged with him his two companions, with the three guides, over a steep and long slope of snow. The two guides at the ends of the rope made every effort in their power to arrest their progress, but in vain; and seeing that they were all upon the point of being launched over the precipice, they let go the rope, forced their hands and feet into the snow, and stopped themselves as by a miracle at the very verge of an abyss, into which their unfortunate companions were immediately plunged. They made their way to the foot of the precipice, where they found three bodies in such a sad condition as to leave no doubt of the fate of the fourth, and then hastened down to Cormayeur, where they arrived soon after eight o'clock.

Next evening the remains were brought down, those of the English being deposited in the Valdois Chapel. They were afterwards interred in one grave in the Protestant Cemetery, followed by all the English in Cormayeur, and a large crowd of sympathising inhabitants. The guide Tairraz was buried in the Roman Catholic portion of the cemetery, as close as possible to his unfortunate companions.

THE MINISTERIAL DINNER.—The annual Ministerial whitebait dinner took place on Wednesday evening at the Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich. Viscount Palmerston and a large party of his colleagues went by water from Westminster, a steamer being engaged for the purpose. Covers were laid for thirty, the company including the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Somerset, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Woodhouse, Viscount Palmerston, the Right Hon. Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Charles P. Villiers, the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, the Right Hon. T. Milner Gibson, Lord Clarence Paget, Rear-Admiral the Hon. F. T. Pelham, the Right Hon. W. Hutt, the Right Hon. Robert Lowe, Hon. H. B. W. Brand, Mr. Laing, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper, Mr. C. Fortescue, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, Mr. Hugesen, Mr. J. Bagwell, &c.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1860.

HOME AFFAIRS.

WE think it will be admitted that at the present moment the part of the newspaper to which every one turns first is that which contains the telegrams from abroad. In England, generally, we are notorious for our indifference to foreign politics; and the mass of the population seldom give even a passing consideration to them, unless some unusually sanguinary revolution has just taken place, or some great war is actually raging on the Continent. Now, however, though we have no sort of personal interest in the matter, we are as much interested in what Garibaldi is doing as though he were fighting our own battles; and soon we shall be inquiring anxiously for the result of the expedition to Syria, which is to seek out and punish, under the direction of the Turkish Government, those who appear to have done nothing more than execute the Turkish Government's commands. If we turn to such home topics as people will consent to discuss, we find that the talk is still of war or of warlike things, such as the Fortifications Bill, the comparative strength of the French and English navies, the propriety of erecting a regular system of defences around London, or of risking every thing, in case of invasion, in one great battle; the success of the volunteer movement, the best mode of enrolling artisans, &c. The weather, too, has become a serious subject, and is no longer a mere pretext for conversational interludes. The sun still refuses to shine, the rain continues to fall in showers as copious and as chilling as Mr. Bright's eloquence, the crops are failing, the cattle dying, and in Southern Russia, which supplies half the storehouses of Europe with grain, swarms of locusts have appeared, and have defied the efforts of an organised body of twenty thousand men to arrest their Tartarlike advance. All this looks very like war, and a good deal like famine; so the Manchester party propose to turn the pleasant aspect of affairs to account by agitating during the approaching winter for Parliamentary Reform. With the quartern loaf at a shilling and meat at two shillings a pound it will be easier than ever to inflame the passions of the multitude by inveighing against the shameless expenditure of a Government which is continually blamed by enlightened Continental politicians for foolishly neglecting its Navy and leaving its dockyards without protection.

However, whether famine or a season of plenty be at hand, we must not forget that France, Austria, Prussia, and all Italy are under arms, and that even if we did not know that a collision must inevitably take place in Venetia, there would be danger of war from the mere fact of so many Powers being fully prepared for it. Mr. Bright knows very well that a fire-office will not insure a house that is next to a powder-magazine or a firework-shop except at extra risk, and, as he looks at all government from a purely mercantile point of view, it seems strange that he should not admit the propriety of a great house of business like the British nation protecting itself by means of an increased premium against increased chances of injury.

Doubtless the working classes understand already that if we had no army we should have no soldiers to pay, but they also understand that, as we have a police to protect our houses, so we must have a police to guard our shores. After vilifying the Army, it was to be expected that Mr. Bright would seek to cast odium on the volunteers, and during the infancy of the movement he indulged once or twice in sneers at "rifle-corps glory" as being inferior to militia glory, which was itself inferior to the questionable glory of belonging to the regular service. Indeed, he went so far as to prophesy that the rage for volunteering would not last. With a hundred and fifty thousand hard-working, well-skilled riflemen in the country, the peace-loving agitator can no longer utter nonsense of this kind, but he will have somehow to attack and undervalue the military spirit of which, just now, England is happily so full, or his arguments in favour of disbanding our troops would not be listened to for a second. Whatever those arguments may be, let us hope that as many as possible of the working classes will show their appreciation of them by joining without delay one of those volunteer corps which offer special facilities for the admission of artisans.

A HEAVY GAS BILL.—The New York correspondent of the Mobile Register relates the following:—"Recently a gentleman returned from Europe. He had been absent with his family seven months. He paid his gas bill the day he left, and the house had not been opened for seven months, yet, when it was, the gasmen took a return from the meter, and a bill was made out for £2 dollars. Mr. Grinnell went and complained to the secretary, related the circumstance, and threatened exposure of such a barefaced robbery. He refused to pay the bill. 'Very well, sir,' said the secretary. 'Mr. G. went home and told his wife. 'Pay it,' said she. 'Why not?' said he. 'Because,' said she, 'the day we left New York I had to go back to the house for some article I had forgot. The window-shutters were fastened; I lit the gas. The other day, when we returned, I found it still burning.' The bill was paid."

ABD-EL-KADER, EMPEROR OF ARABIA.—Under this title an anonymous pamphlet has appeared, the object of which is to show that the Ottoman Empire is hastening to its fall, and that the populations of Asia should be intrusted to the care of a man who, while he has tasted of the benefits of civilisation, possesses at the same time a complete knowledge as well of the faults, weaknesses, and prejudices of those nations, as of their virtues and valuable qualities. A nation, the author says, cannot be free, great, and independent, without a navy, army, money, credit, national unity, peace at home, respect abroad, and able statesmen. None of these elements belong to the Ottoman Empire, therefore it must fall, and an Oriental balance of power must be established in its place, by uniting all the Arab races in one empire, under the sceptre of Abd-el-Kader, and making Constantinople a free city under the protection of all the Powers.

SAVINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN and the Prince Consort head a subscription list for the Syrian Christians with £200 and £100 respectively.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM OF PRUSSIA will, on the 1st of September, accompany the Princess to Puttbus, where she is to take sea-bathing. On the 24th of that month the Prince and Princess will go to the Court of Coburg to meet Queen Victoria.

THE SEVENTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY of the birthday of the Duchess of Kent was celebrated at Windsor, on the 17th, with the customary honours paid to the members of the Royal family.

THE *Espero* of Turin says that the Duke de Chartres has resigned the commission which he had accepted in the Sardinian Army at the time of the war against Austria, on the ground that he cannot draw a sword against his relation, the King of Naples.

LORD DERBY laid the foundation-stone of an Industrial Ragged School and Church at Kirkdale, near Liverpool, on Saturday.

THE ASSERTION THAT GENERAL THUR, during his recent short sojourn in Paris, had an interview with the Emperor, and that the Emperor had made Garibaldi a present of some rifled cannon, is contradicted by the *Patrie*.

THE APPOINTMENT OF SIR C. EASTLAKE as Director of the National Gallery has been prolonged, according to the rule before instituted, for another period of five years.

MR. COLLETT, the Swedish Minister at Constantinople, died suddenly at his residence in Pera on the 2nd inst.

PRINCE PONIAWOSKI, says the *Franca Musicale*, has composed a military march of great beauty, to be called the "Napoléonienne." The Emperor has ordered that it shall become the national air, in the place of "Partant pour la Syrie" of Queen Hortense, which is not considered sufficiently animated.

THERE IS A RUMOUR that the Queen of England will this year meet the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia at Coburg. The *New Prussian Gazette* says that the King of the Belgians will also meet her Majesty at Coburg.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES MATHEWS are engaged for the dramatic season at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane. Their engagement at the Haymarket Theatre terminates at the latter end of September.

LORD STANLEY OF ALDERLEY will succeed Lord Elgin as Postmaster-General.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION appointed to inquire into the state of the dockyards has suspended its labours, and will not resume its sittings until the 16th of October.

THE DEAN OF YORK has placed the munificent sum of £2000 at the disposal of the Chapter, for the purpose of augmenting the salaries of the "songmen," or, in other words, for improving the choir of York Cathedral.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT has made arrangements for the construction in this country of eight first-class war-steamer, which are expected to cost little less than £200,000 each. The Spanish Government are also in the English market for the purchase of several thousand loads of oak timber.

A LETTER FROM FRANKFORT apprises us that the Elector of Hesse had been stopped on the public promenade at Hanau by some persons, who abused him in the coarsest terms, accused him of breach of faith, and demanded from him the re-establishment of the Constitution of 1831. The Elector was compelled to take refuge in a jeweller's shop.

THE GRAND DUCHESS MARIE OF RUSSIA, with the Princes Nicholas and Eugene Romanoffski, attended by a large suite, have arrived in London from Torquay. Baron and Baroness de Brunnov were present to meet them at the Great Western terminus.

THE WIFE OF GEORGE GRIFITHS, plumber, sentenced at the last Bristol Assizes to five years' penal servitude for assaulting a little girl, has been conveyed to a lunatic asylum in a hopeless state of insanity.

THE MERCHANTS OF FRANKFORT are at present signing a declaration by which they denounce public gaming-houses, and bind themselves to employ no clerk who may play therein. The reason why they have adopted this measure is, that a railway is about to be opened which will place Homburg within twenty minutes of Frankfort.

A SPOTTED HYENA, a wild cat, an Angola goat, a bird called a marabout, and two cranes, were landed at Southampton, on Tuesday, from the Peninsular steamer *Sultan*. They were from Loando, in Africa, and are intended for the Zoological Gardens in London.

MR. FLEXMORE, the clown, died on Monday night of atrophy, or wasting of the body. He was thirty-eight years old. Mr. Flexmore first appeared, when eleven years old, as a dancer at a little theatre in Chelsea.

THE CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES have recently decided that an article called "half-stuff," imported by paper-makers for the raw material of their manufacture, is subject to a duty of 15s. per cwt. Up to this time this half-stuff has been admitted free.

THE FRIENDS OF MR. HATCH are about to indict Mrs. Plummer for perjury, we hear.

ACTIVE PREPARATIONS are being made at Glasgow for the fourth annual meeting of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, which commences on the 24th proximo.

THE NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS or inhabitants of the provinces who came to Paris by the pleasure-trains for the Emperor's fête last week amounted to more than 350,000.

A FEW DAYS before her Majesty's arrival at Balmoral the Electric Telegraph Company completed the communication by telegraph between the castle and the metropolis. Her Majesty is now in direct communication with Berlin.

THE *Giornale di Roma* states the total of St. Peter's pence which has reached the hands of the Pope from different parts of the world amounts to 1,120,000 Roman crowns (5,992,000 francs). The same journal declares, at the same time, that the subscription to the Roman loan has proved most successful.

GENERAL LAMORICIERE has dismissed all the clerks at the Spoleto telegraph-office for babbling about the contents of despatches, and has confided the service to a Jesuit from the Loretto College who he thinks will keep his secrets better.

THE REV. EVAN NEFEAN, minister of Grosvenor Chapel, has been appointed to the vacant canonry in Westminster Abbey.

THE SHIPS which were stationed at Queenstown, under the command of Rear-Admiral Erskine, have joined the Commander-in-Chief at Milford Haven.

HOLLAND has made a territorial acquisition, by purchase from Portugal, of an insular or continental possession on the coast of Africa, the name of which is given in the accounts from the Hague as Tomar.

MR. DODD is determined to present his promised land near Windsor to the theatrical profession, and proceedings are in progress to carry out his intentions. Independent of a free gift of the ground, he will endow the buildings with a sum of £8000.

A BRONZE STATUE OF THE LATE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN is about to be erected at Spilsby, Lincolnshire. The statue will be placed on a granite pedestal. The Arctic hero was born at Spilsby.

THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS will take place in the Metropolitan Police Courts consequent on the death of Mr. Hammill.—Mr. Mansfield, of Worship-street, will succeed Mr. Hammill at the Marylebone Court; and Mr. Alexander A. Knox has been appointed to the vacancy caused by the transfer of Mr. Mansfield.

THE MISSING BOAT'S CREW of the unfortunate steamer *Ganges* has arrived in safety at Lisbon: they were given up for lost.

MR. TANCRED, the late member for Banbury, died at Margate on Monday. Mr. Tancred sat for the borough of Banbury for upwards of a quarter of a century, being first returned when that borough was "opened" in 1832, and resigned his seat before the last dissolution of Parliament from age and infirmity.

A MEETING OF WORKING MEN was held in Westminster, on Friday week, for the purpose of considering a scheme for establishing a provision store on the principle of mutual co-operation. The proposal was received with great favour.

THE STATEMENT THAT DR. VAUGHAN has been appointed to the Chancellorship of York Cathedral is contradicted.

THE INHABITANTS OF BROUSSA were on the 14th thrown into great alarm by two rather strong shocks of earthquake, but fortunately they were not renewed, and no damage was occasioned.

A FRENCH SUICIDE.—On Monday week at Lecure, near Havre, a cap was seen in the water with a string of corks around it, and a label upon which was written, "Pull the string, I am at the end of it!" The string was pulled, and sure enough there was the late writer of the label, with a paper, detailing the cause of his having made away with himself, carefully corked up in a bottle in his pocket, with his name and address, "François Foliot, of Vandrimare."

LOSSES AT SEA.—The *John o' Groat's Journal* gives an account of a severe storm which passed over the Caithness coast on Thursday and Friday week, and which destroyed upwards of forty fishing vessels, and did otherwise a great amount of damage. Fortunately no lives were lost. The estimated loss to the fishermen of the coast is said to be £3000, besides the loss of the season's fishing.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

Sergeant Brodie is well known in the lobby of the House of Commons. Ever since he was dismissed from the Army he has considered himself an injured man, and has been most pertinacious in his attempts to get his wrongs redressed. His practice was to lie in wait for officials and private members whom he thought could help him, and whenever he saw a likely man he darted out of the crowd, and told the gentleman by the button, as it were, and began to tell the tale of his woes. Nothing daunted Mr. Brodie, rank and station were nothing to him. Most people in Brodie's position would feel some reluctance in stopping a Cabinet Minister as he walked across the lobby; but Mr. Brodie's audacity knew no bounds; and there can be no doubt that he succeeded not only in getting the ear of several officials of high standing, but also in interesting them in his case. Mr. Roebuck, I believe, once went with him to Lord Panmure when his Lordship was Secretary-at-War. Mr. Roebuck, as everybody knows, a kind hearted man, though petulant; and, thinking that Brodie had been hardly dealt with, he consented to introduce him to Lord Panmure. But the member for Sheffield and his Lordship were both obliged to drop the Sergeant's acquaintance, for his conduct and manner were so extravagant and eccentric that they came to the conclusion that he was a little bit "touched in his upper story." And I think that is the most charitable construction of his conduct. The man has a bee in his bonnet. Disraeli was afraid of him, and hence the note to Mr. Rose. It was given to get rid of him. There was nothing in the note that committed the Opposition leader. Every word might have been "read at Charing-cross." It simply asked Mr. Rose to give Brodie something to do, that he, Mr. Disraeli, might be rid of the Sergeant's importunity. No work, however, was allotted to him, for Mr. Rose did not believe in the Sergeant, but suspected him to be a spy, a suspicion that subsequent events have justified. In Brodie's statement that Disraeli talked to him confidentially and urged him to damage "the late Government," and especially Mr. Vernon Smith (now Lord Lyvedon), I can't believe there is a word of truth. Of all men Mr. Disraeli is the last to make a confidant of a man like Sergeant Brodie. He is civil, courteous, and always ready to listen to any one who has a grievance, but whilst he is civilly attentive, he seldom replies, and never commits himself. He is, in short, far too experienced and wary to do anything of the sort. Generally, like all our political gods, he keeps in his cloud, and, if any audacious mortal penetrates into his sanctum, you may rely upon it that said mortal knows when he leaves very little more of the impenetrable mind of Mr. Disraeli than when he entered. Mr. Brodie's career is, however, now closed. For a long time he was held to be a simple-minded injured man, but his "disclosures" before the Berwick Commission show that he is dangerous, and those who used to think that there really was something in his case begin to believe that there was ample reason for his dismissal both from the Army and his subsequent position at Weedon. My own opinion is, decidedly, that the man is "cracked."

But what shall we say of Mr. Donald Nicol, who figures so conspicuously in this business? Well, the less that is said the better for Mr. Nicol. The most charitable decision is that Mr. Nicol is not a strong-minded man. Knowing Brodie, as he must have done, for Brodie was in his employ for some months, it is astounding that he should have placed the smallest reliance upon the Sergeant's statements.

Lord Mulgrave, who is doing the host so admirably to the Prince of Wales at Halifax, as Governor of Nova Scotia, was formerly Treasurer of her Majesty's Household, and sub-sub-whip to the House of Commons, under Mr. Hayter. As a reward for his eminent services he received from a grateful country, in 1857, through Lord Palmerston, the Governorship which he now holds. When he was appointed some of his friends expressed their surprise that he, the eldest son of a Peer, should consent to banishment to such a dreary place for the paltry salary of £3000 a year. But his answer was—"Yes, it is not very good; but I am going in for the Governorship business," from which we see that this is only to be considered the first step to a much higher post, and one more suitable to his Lordship's commanding abilities. The Governorship of Nova Scotia is, however, barring the banishment, not a bad thing. There is little work, £3000 a year and a house, a large staff of officers to assist the Governor, capital fishing, shooting, and boating, and of course capital living. It is to be presumed, also, that snuff is plentiful, otherwise the place would be intolerable to the noble Earl. And then there is the further advantage of rank, for your Governor is a sort of king, has his court, something of an army, an Attorney and Solicitor General, &c., and in fact is, within constitutional limits, every inch a king except in name.

With an inexplicable generosity, the proprietor of the Alhambra Circus has provided the readers of the daily newspapers with a summary of the natural history of the hippopotamus, and the student of hoarding-placards with a highly coloured illustration of a group of these animals sporting in their native waters. So much excitement has he made about the little creature now exhibiting at his circus, that one would imagine he had secured a dodo, a dragon, or a phoenix, and not merely a diminutive specimen of an animal which has for the last few years been on view at the Zoological Gardens. The hippopotamus at the Alhambra is very young, only eighteen months old, very tranquil and unobtrusive, and very goodnatured. It is announced as "performing." What this may be we cannot say; but it opens its mouth and allows its dirty-looking keeper (the "Arab chief," as he is called) to insert his head halfway down its throat, it submits to be beaten with a switch, and to be ridden upon, and it allows Mr. Tom Matthews to sing to it the ghostliest comic song never heard (thanks to the braying of the accompanying band), without hissing, hooting, or attacking him. The mistake about the exhibition is that it is a little too much Barnhamised: had it been advertised merely as a hippopotamus, well and good—there is no doubt about its species—and the promise of the announcement would have been kept by the animal's appearance in the circle; but the woodcuts and the natural history and the "performing" are mere Yankee gags, which do not attract the public and do harm to those that use them. The Alhambra is in the best situation in London for a circus, is in itself a beautiful building, and has very fair attractions in its horsemanship and its athletes. It has no need to descend to such unworthy rappings for notoriety.

Your readers will remember the squabble between the council of the Dramatic College and a Mr. Dodd, a retired dust-contractor, who was the first person who proposed to give a free grant of land to the college, and whose name was so rapturously received at the inaugural meeting in the Princess's Theatre. When misunderstanding arose between the council and Mr. Dodd much obloquy was poured upon him—he was facetiously termed "Dodd the Dustman" by his opponents, and made the butt of much social satire; but it would appear that he intends returning good for evil, and is still determined not only on presenting a grant of some land near Windsor for the erection of dramatic almshouses, but of endowing the building with a sum of £8000. This is generous conduct, indeed, on Mr. Dodd's part; and few would be found ready to come down with the dust. Let his almshouses but be in a cheerful situation, and he may yet do a better business than is usual at Maybury.

Messrs. Harper, the well-known publishers of New York, are said to be so well pleased with the stories contained in Mr. Moy Thomas's book of reprints from *Household Words* called "When the Snow Falls," that they have offered the author a very liberal engagement, which he has accepted) to write a serial story for their publication, *Harper's Magazine*.

Are philologists agreed as to what is an "English accent"? A Scotch newspaper, in mentioning the supposed murder of a girl at Edinburgh, writes—"He is a native of Paisley, but speaks with an English accent;" which means, I presume, that he did not speak broad Scotch.

Mr. Flexmore the Clown is dead. He was an agile dancer and a grotesque, but had little real humour of the Grimaldi order.

Most satisfactory intelligence has arrived of the amateur performance of the Savage Club in aid of the Brough Memorial Fund at Liverpool. The theatre was crammed, upwards of a thousand people were turned away, and it is hoped that about £150 will be added to the charity. The local papers are warm in their praises of the acting of Messrs. Talfourd, Hollingshead, Byron, Buckingham, and Falconer.

We read in the *Daily News*, "the Prince John Doria has left Maurigny's Hotel for the north of England." If Quin the actor were alive how soon he would follow him!

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Barry Sullivan has returned from America and appeared at the St. James's as Hamlet. Mr. Sullivan has a good stage face and figure, and his reading is careful and correct: he is perfectly inoffensive, but not likely to raise any sensation.

Mrs. Stirling leaves the OLYMPIC and goes to DRURY LANE, where Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews are also engaged.

This evening (Saturday) the STRAND closes for a fortnight. The theatre will be cleaned and decorated in the interval.

On Monday Mr. J. R. Anderson, Miss Elsworth, and Mr. Weiss appear in "Macbeth" at the PRINCESS.

Literature.

Pen and Pencil Sketches of a Holiday Scamper in Spain. By A. C. ANDROS. London: Edward Stanford.

The increasing demand for suburban skittles on a Saturday afternoon has led many ill-natured and conservative observers to decry that novel national institution—the Saturday half-holiday. It need scarcely be pointed out that such tendencies towards the development of one form of "muscular Christianity" are exceptions rather than rules; and we would no more wish to deprive all society of its hebdomadal enjoyment for such a reason than we would deprive all gentlemen and clerks "under," or, as they too frequently are, above, "Government" of their annual month's holiday because an occasional ambitious tourist puts himself into the power of a possible enemy by writing a book. By writing we mean publishing; for assuredly every human being is convinced that a record of his own experiences must be valuable; and should publishers prove strong against the weakness of the travelled flesh, it is certain that endless MS. of "holiday scamper" will be found amongst every gentleman's papers after his death. And well if nothing worse be found—boxes of letters or recipients of secrets to give up their ghastly dead by way of terrifying the living. With our author, Mr. A. C. Andros, we have nothing of the kind to fear. With home and with the public he will have no secrets. From the very first page—nay, from the preface—he is all open and above board. He does not print his little book "obliged by hunger" nor by "request of friends." Indeed, the only point upon which the writer is in the least degree reticent is in not telling us why he prints it at all; and the most careful reader could offer no possible explanation, excepting the supposition that what is evidently interesting to Mr. Andros must necessarily be interesting to all the world. In all probability the right nail to be struck lies there. With a pen in one hand and a pencil in the other (some of the sketches, by the way, are cleverly and humorously executed), the holiday scamperer is so self-confident—believes so thoroughly that his every step must be chronicled with care for the edification of all society—that his very simplicity supplies a charm which perhaps no other characteristic could supply, and really gives the reader a kind of sympathy for one who so clearly sympathises with himself.

But, as is always the case in that Arcadian felicitous arrangement known as "no concealments," the pettiness, the reiteration, of details is apt to become fatiguing. For instance, the first page of Mr. Andros's book tells us what very few of us can possibly have forgotten, "hat, on or about the last day of July, 1859, the London season was nearly over—the parks and gardens were rapidly emptying, the theatres and opera-houses were beginning to manifest signs of shutting up, the Royal Academy was about to be closed, the Thames and Serpentine were exhaling mephitic vapours, Parliament was on the eve of prorogation, the heat was becoming intolerable, and everybody was hurrying out of town, to country, seaside, or Continent. Of course, considering the bad reputation of travellers' tales, it is gratifying to find Mr. Andros setting out with so laudable a desire for the dissemination of truth, and recording facts for the accuracy of which he can call nearly three million witnesses. It is, however, to be hoped that the great success of our author in this department of literature will not tempt every autumnal traveller to chronicle domestic history with such painstaking but fatal minuteness. But we are proceeding abroad. At this stifling conjuncture Mr. Andros fell in with a remarkably interesting book about Spain, and was immediately fired with the ambition to see a bull-fight, and, we imagine, to write a little book, which, we fear, will hardly bear comparison with the former. Mr. Andros resolves to go to Spain, accompanied by a person described in an original manner as a "fidus Achates, a well-beloved coz;" he has the good sense to go by railway to Dover, and by water to France. It is altogether a remarkable passage, for the captain orders the steersman to "larboard" or "port," as occasion demands, and then to "steady;" and, finally, the vessel crosses the Channel, goes into Calais harbour, and—*mirabile dictu*—when the passengers land they "tread the shores of France!"

Perhaps so startling a termination to a voyage across the Channel will frighten many readers out of the book at once; and, indeed, the work does become warm as we proceed. Slang is poured forth as fast as the steam-engine is travelling. The engine pulls up at Amiens to "licker." Mr. Andros takes "forty winks;" his cousin "snores like a trooper;" and when they reach Paris "out they buddle." But they leave Paris, and very soon we are introduced to the deeper sympathies of the author. Lyons has its classical associations:

Being at Lyons, reminiscences of Lytton's celebrated drama of course crowd upon me. At every turn I expect to see M. Deschappelles hurrying to his counting-house. In every carriage I try to recognise Pauline and her ambitious maternal relative. In every garden I look for Claude Melnotte writing poetry among his maternal cabages. At every auberge I endeavour to discover the villain Beauséant plotting his treacherous schemes with his wretched tool, Glavis. Ah! Who is that ancient buffier in regimentals? Surely, it is our old friend Colonel Damas! Alas! no. I fear "these, our actors, have vanished into thin air;" and the only members of the dramatic persons that I venture to assume remain upon the stage are those three dirty sous-lieutenants, who, I make up my mind, must be the first, second, and third officers that perform such grave and important parts in "The Lady of Lyons."

Of course after this miraculously minute display of acquaintance with the literature of the world (at least, Mr. Andros mentions no other book) we are prepared to take all that he gives in perfect good faith; although, indeed, his opinions are occasionally expressed with a felicity of emotion or a strength of language which might be held to argue an animus. For instance, concerning French vivandières and Spanish women:—

Here my theatrical, preconceived notions of vivandières are rudely put to flight by the apparition of several coarse, masculine-looking women, the true daughters of the regiment. But oh! how different from charming little Piccolomini in her bewitching personification of "La Figlia del Reggimento!"

We pass several charming scenes, wearing the elegant mantilla, attended by aged criadas, or female servants, who stick to their heels like faithful spaniels, and dart ferocious glances towards me as I audaciously peer at their young mistresses. High and low, rich and poor, all carry fans; and at first it seems absurd enough to be importuned by a frowsy old beggar, who solicits alms with one hand while she fans herself with the other. These mendicants, in which Spain is so prolific, are, however, not so old as they seem. The Spanish women soon fade, get flabby, bloated, and forbidding in appearance. Never have I seen such fearful bags as now meet my averted gaze.

After a fair landing in Spain the annoyances inseparable from Spanish travelling commence in all their severity. The author, however, is

tolerably philosophic, and takes unwelcome things with a kindliness which does honour to the goodness of his heart, whatever idea it may give of the importance of his head. He is clearly of opinion, with Mr. Charles Mathews, that

When a man travels he mustn't feel queer
If he gets a few rubs which he doesn't get here.

Therefore he, literally, swallows the perpetual garlic; with reminiscences of Mr. Ross, at the Cyder Cellars, describes the Spanish flea as a lively buffer, and seems resolved to forgive every unpleasant object which (to quote his own charming confusion of ideas) "meets his averted gaze." His route comprises Barcelona, Valencia, Castile, Madrid, Malaga, Granada, and the Alhambra, "sweet," Seville, down the Guadalquivir to Cadiz, with Gibraltar, and the P. and O. C.'s steamer *Ganges* to Southampton. But yet, with so fertile and comparatively unworked a country, the author utterly fails to say a word that is not already to be found in Washington Irving, Ford, and others. His accounts are certainly amusing enough—slight, touch-and-go allusions rather than descriptions of places of interest and importance—combined with lavishly well-filled up stories of personal comforts or discomforts. From first page to last the author is in a state of ferment because he cannot manage to see a bull-fight. As is the case with the country innkeeper in "Time Works Wonders," who had an astonishing supply of everything yesterday, and expects to have more than he will know what to do with to-morrow, but has not a scrap of anything to-day. In Spain, it seems, there has always been a bull-fight last week, and one is ordered by express desire for next week. But a traveller will always be disappointed.

Man is not now, but always to be, blest,

and Mr. Andros leaves Spain unblest. But all these accounts of non-bull-fights are not properly descriptive of Spain; but they, together with accounts of how Mr. Andros dislikes garlic, how he disapproves Spanish women, makes a mistake in his Bradshaw, buys a "swell and literally nobby hat," &c., &c., are so thoroughly descriptive of the author that we read away pleasantly, feeling convinced that a wrong title has innocently been given to the book. Had it been called "A Londoner out of London," or, "A Fish out of Water," the description would have been exact. It is, upon the whole, a certain portion of what has been clamoured for by all the critics for years and years. It is a very fairly-executed view of a certain bit of life in the nineteenth century. We see exactly what a young gentleman of certain parts, and a month's holiday, is likely to do with himself, and what he will probably say to his gentleman friend when he returns home. It is, however, to be regretted that much of what he does is slang, and almost all of what he says is slang. The tendency amongst many of our younger writers towards the adoption, or rather invention, of a language composed entirely of stilted synonym and dire vulgarity cannot be too severely reprehended. When employed to clothe good thoughts, the chances are that the good thoughts will lose half the respect to which they are entitled; and when employed to decorate mediocrity or fustian the happiest result will be a dead level that cannot fail to be speedily forgotten. It is a pleasure occasionally to come across a page of the "Holiday Scamper" where the writer has something to say, and condescends to say it in the manner of an English gentleman, whose experience and language are derived from sources not entirely confined to billiard-rooms and bars for American drinks. Here, for instance, is a passage which will doubtless call forth an instantaneous apology from Mr. Buckstone, who, in the matter of "renowned dancers," has, it appears, been shamefully deceived:—

The country we are now traversing is very fine; we are in the heart of far-famed Andalusia: in the course of the morning we pass through a tunnel piercing the solid rock, amid wildly picturesque scenery. Lofty mountains, verdant hills, peaked eminences, and craggy dells from around, while figs, apricots, and pomegranates abound on every side. The peasants here are immense bucks compared with the swarthy Valencians. These are the men we see depicted in bright colours on fruit-boxes, fans, and Academy paintings; these are the swells who sport gay jackets with many buttons, knee-breeches with gaudy sidestripes, and embroidered gaiters with floating fringe; these are the fellows who play the guitar, rattle the castanets, and caper through the bolero at the Haymarket. But where are the baylarnas! where is the bewitching danseuse of the Perea Nena school? where the nymphs who have ever while dazzled and intoxicated me with their undulating motions and alluring postures in the glorious cachucha! Echo answers, where? I begin to suspect that the graceful creature who enters the stage on the tip of her toes, envelops her head, white shoulders, and swelling bust in the snowing mantilla, luxuriates in short skirts and silk fleshings, taps her anxious lover with her quivering fan, and finally issuing from her veil like a rosebud bursting into bloom, gives a tremendous leap into the air and falls into the arms of her expectant amant, is in sober earnest but a sheer myth. I am told that I have come to Spain at the wrong season to see the ladies to advantage, but nothing will persuade me that any such female as the one I have described exists but in the mystic chateaux en Espagne, or in the fertile imaginations of cockney playgoers.

A few pages further on we find it impossible to keep up our grandeur. At Seville the author falls "under the guidance of Mr. Barlow, an Englishman, who claims to be distantly related to the famous William of that ilk" ("ilk," by-the-way, means place, and not name), and similar liberties are taken, with a persistency against which there is no appeal. We shall leave the author now, glad that garlic, and perhaps fleas, shall no longer trouble him. But we are persuaded that he have by no means done with him yet. True, he is in the bosom of his family, and there considered a very big lion indeed. He might pass muster in Mayfair, and Paddington would implore him upon its knees. But he cannot be escaped. He is ubiquitous. Wherever we go we meet him. Who does not every night of the season regularly meet the gentleman who has been somewhere, who has a good opinion of himself and a thorough knowledge as to where should lie the most delicate line of an ankle, who swears by Jove, smokes like a chimney, handles the ribbons, takes a turn with the gloves; and, we repeat, who does not know that oracle—the gentleman who has written a book?

Under a Cloud. A Novel. By FREDERICK and JAMES GREENWOOD. 3 vols. J. C. Skeet.

"The authors of this story are anxious to disclaim for it any pretensions which may be inferred from its reproduction in so dignified and orthodox a form as that in which it now appears. Originally written to amuse the many"—and so on, says the preface to "Under a Cloud." For our part, we think an occasional dislocation of the literary strata a very good thing. Why should not a story, here and there, written to amuse the many, crop out among the novels written (if price determines it) to amuse the few? Welcome, Ruth, and welcome, Woppits, to the dress-circle of three-volume novels! And if anybody objects to your company he has, as Sterne says, a pumpkin for his head and a pipkin for his heart; and when he is dissected (which we hope he will be, after meeting an ignominious death from a twopenny, if not a penny, 'bus) it will be found so.

Seriously, no apology was necessary for this republication. The book speaks for itself in all respects, and can stand upon its merits without any oblique references whatever. It contains as much of the real gold of genius as, beaten out thin, Bulwer-fashion, would make twice as many volumes as Bulwer has written; and it sparkles from beginning to end with real gems of epigram and humour. "His mother was a thief, and he was weaned on a stolen poundcake." Did Jerrold, in his happiest mood, ever beat that? Or the description of Biddies, the showman, almost liable to be taken for a bit of field, as he lay asleep on the grass, in a green coat, with brass buttons for dandelions, to keep up the illusion! The authors might well have spared their excuses for "caricature" in drawing. There is caricature with a heart and a head, and as superior to the thing they speak of as Mr. Robson to a clown at a fair.

We warmly recommend "Under a Cloud." Full of faults as it is—without "art," without "construction," without almost everything that is orthodox and proper—it is one of the most satisfying books we have recently read, full of flavour and force, and leaving a long-lived, pleasant taste behind it.



LAUNCH OF THE CORVETTE "ORESTES," AT SHEERNESS.—(FROM A SKETCH BY W. DARLEY.)

LAUNCH OF THE "ORESTES."

On Saturday, the 18th inst., the splendid steam-corvette *Orestes* was launched at Sheerness; and, although the weather was unfavourable, some thousands of spectators had assembled to witness the ceremony. Among these were the Commander-in-Chief at Sheerness, Vice-Admiral W. J. Hope Johnstone; Captain Wise, Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, and Superintendent of the Dockyard; Captain Schomberg, chief of the steam reserve; Captain Luard, of the flag-ship; and other officers of the Royal Navy.

Preparations for the launch had commenced as early as six a.m., when the thundering sound of 150 mauls gave evidence that the vessel was being "set up." At seven a.m. they commenced removing the blocks from under her keel, and the clearance continued until twenty minutes to one p.m., when but three tripping-blocks remained. The ceremony of naming the vessel was performed by Miss Hope Johnstone, the daughter of the Commander-in-Chief, who went through the duty in the usual manner by breaking a tastefully-decorated bottle of wine which was suspended to the stem, and at the same time wishing success to the *Orestes*. During this ceremony the band of the 13th Kent Volunteers played "Hearts of Oak."

Men having been stationed at the dogshores, and others at the jack-screws and shore against the stem, orders were given to remove the triggers, when the lady with a mallet (made from the timber of the old *Shannon*) and a chisel cut the cord by which the heavy pigs of ballast, 3 cwt. each, were suspended: they came like thunder on the dogshores. Orders were now given to heave away and set on the shore against the stem, when a purchase of about 120 tons in two seconds settled the question by sending her on her way to the watery world, cheered most heartily by the thousands present, the bands of the 13th Kent and the apprentices' drums and fifes playing "Rule Britannia" and "God Save the Queen." The arrangements were

so successful that scarcely a creak was to be heard, as she glided down the ways into the water. Three cheers were again given when she was safely off, and even the ladies joined most heartily in the applause.

The *Orestes* is built from designs by Sir Baldwin Walker, Comptroller of the Navy. Her workmanship is excellent. She is one of the most splendid vessels afloat, admirably adapted for speed, and on launching is so far advanced towards completion that on the engines being placed in her she may be sent to sea in one month.

The following are her dimensions:—Length over all, 254 feet; length between perpendiculars, 225 feet; length of keel for tonnage, 196 feet 8½ inches; extreme breadth, 40 feet 8 inches; breadth for tonnage, 40 feet 4 inches; breadth moulded, 39 feet 8 inches; depth of hold, 24 feet 2 inches; burden, 1702 tons; twenty 8-inch guns; one pivot-gun on the fore-castle or quarter-deck; complement of men, 260. Her engines will be of 400-horse power, and are being constructed by Messrs. Napier, of Glasgow.

HONG-KONG.

ADVICES have already been received of the arrival of Lord Elgin and Baron Gros with their respective suites at Hong-Kong. Considering the state of affairs at Shanghai, where the Imperial troops have been defeated by the rebels, and it has become necessary to land marines for the protection of the British residents, it is most probable that the Envoys will leave almost immediately, in order to proceed to the north, the seat of these disturbances. This same island of Hong-Kong is certainly one of the most remarkable places in the world. Nothing can be more picturesque than its bay, land-locked amidst bold rocks and swelling hills, and from the time of the first morning gun till late in the evening its waters swarm with the indications of life and activity; while on the higher grounds luxuriant flowers, creeping on every side, impart a sense of quiet seclusion. The whole surface of the bay beneath would seem crowded with the accessories of commercial bustle. Market-boats laden with provisions from the main land, with their richly-coloured sails of matting and many picturesque forms, are

crowding into the harbour. Square-rigged ships are pressing all sail to gain the long-desired anchorage, while others are unmooring to proceed to the several ports for their outward cargo. Men-of-war, trading junks, merchant craft from every country, all are here to give testimony to the activity and importance of the trade which in some way or another finds in Hong-Kong a connecting link. Craft in numbers from the adjoining coast, each differing in shape and colour, according to the port; the great bulky Shantung junk; the Shanghai with its gaudy colours and mystic eagle on the stern but little differing; the long low craft of Ningpo, and so on, down to Hainan, and even Siam and Singapore, all have their representatives. It cannot but be matter of surprise to a stranger that Hong-Kong, which is really little more than a barren rock, has suddenly attained such an immense population and such commercial import-



HONG-KONG

ance. The city of Victoria, and its cathedral, episcopal palace, Government House, its Supreme Court, and all its palatial merchants' houses, are just on the spot of earth where no one would have thought of placing them. The secret is that this place has not only been made the home of unnumbered rogues and pirates, unsafe in any other place, but political security to life and property. A magnificent harbour, easy of access, and the absence of oppressive customs, are all inducements for an enterprising population to bring their produce, and afterwards to return with goods not subject to the heavy duties. Not twenty years have passed over our heads since England first took possession of this pirate haunt, and all its properties of unlimited granite and bare hills, and now it is the great centre of a Chinese coasting trade, to feed which numberless ships come laden with produce from India, Siam, and Manilla; from Batavia and Singapore, with the collected tribute of the Malayan Archipelago; from England, New York, and San Francisco; even New Zealand and Australia are contributors of the required supplies. Not only this, but it has become the central postal and financial station whence all the directing wires of the great European and American foreign trade with China receive their impulse, and are pulled by heads of houses located in the colony, determining the ultimate destination of all the ships and cargoes that enter or leave the China Seas.

Hong-Kong is to China what Gibraltar is to Spain—a great smuggling emporium. It offers some little premium of facilities to pirates also, and to those engaged in the trade, and taking up their residence, the protection and security their own land cannot afford. Thus it happens that Hong-Kong, though in a subsidiary sense promoting foreign trade with China (in the only sense in which this was understood by the treaty-contracting Powers), really owes its wondrous growth and prosperity to a vast contraband trade with the whole seaboard of China, conducted chiefly by the Chinese themselves. Here they can bring their opium, longcloths, yarns, and woollens, free of all duty, with all the chances of laying them down at the points of consumption for a small bribe. Here they can sell their rhubarb, sugars, camphor, and sundry other produce, and at Macao their tea, at a better price than at the consular ports, for the same reason that they succeed in escaping duty on their transit.

The length of the island of Hong-Kong from east to west is about eight miles; but its breadth is very irregular, varying from two to six miles. The coast line forms a succession of bays and headlands, and off almost every part of it there is excellent anchorage. The harbour of Victoria lies between the mountains of Hong-Kong and those of the main land, and is exposed to the fury of the typhoons, which at certain seasons of the year are of frequent occurrence, and cause much damage among the shipping. Hong-Kong was taken by the British during the first Chinese war, and in 1843 was regularly constituted a British colony, and at this period there was scarcely a house standing on the site of the present thriving city of Victoria, which was then covered with a thick brushwood. The rapid progress of the place has been partially attributed to the command of cheap labour, which can be had to almost any extent. The population is now upwards of 32,000, of whom 28,000 are Chinese. Hong-Kong is in future to be garrisoned by a provisional battalion, which will incorporate any draughts of men from home, and detach draughts to the north as may be necessary. Its strength at present is 865 men. The authorities are now laying out Kowloon, and building huts for the troops; and Mr. Goddard, of the consular service, has been stationed there to keep surveillance over the Chinese settlers.

THE REV. WILLIAM WOOD STAMP.

The Wesleyan Methodist Conference, whose sittings have recently terminated, is an evidence of that practical vigour with which John Wesley carried on the great work given him to do. There are still such evidences of vitality in these meetings as will show that their institution was a wise combination of such administrative powers as would preserve the doctrines of the founder, not, perhaps, from modification, but from misunderstanding; indeed, in their original constitution there seems to be something of the true apostolic model about the system of Church government and authority laid down by the great preacher.

In the present instance the Conference has been of a peculiarly interesting character. It has been held in London: it has occupied itself during several days in the settlement of several important points, and the arduous attention which has been demanded of the members of the administration shows that a very large amount of influence must be exercised by the body to which they belong. There were more than four hundred ministers present at these meetings, and the business which they had to do comprised—the review of a tabulated statement of the numbers in the society, presented by Mr. Dickinson, which exhibited a large increase; the consideration of numerous memorials from various circuits praying for various objects, one of them from Birmingham, stating the pain felt by the memorialists on reading the evidence of the Rev. George Osborn and Mr. Perceval Bunting on church rates before the Lords' Committee, and expressing approval of non-interference, a principle generally adopted by Methodism in political questions; then there was to determine the stationing of the various preachers, and to consider the reappointment of the Rev. W. L. Thornton, M.A., and the Rev. G. Wilson, as the Connexional editors, and of the Rev. I. Mason as the book steward. These, with a number of interesting questions which were after discussion referred to the various committees, occupied the time during which the meetings continued, and no labour seems to have been spared to do the work thoroughly.

It is no light task to occupy the position of President of this Conference, and in order adequately to fulfil it a man needs to possess talents of no very common order. The election for the office is at once a great honour and a heavy responsibility; and on the present occasion several names were put forward, among which that of the Rev. William Wood Stamp was deemed most worthy of selection.

This gentleman seems to possess the very qualifications necessary to constitute him an admirable president. During more than thirty years

he has given evidence of that calm judgment and those practical business habits which are after all best suited for dealing with the every-day world. To these he has added an honourable fame as a faithful minister of the gospel, well versed in all the rules and customs of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

The father of the president, the late Rev. John Stamp, was for forty years a preacher in the Connection, and for seven years held the office of governor of Woodhouse-grove School, an establishment for the education of the sons of Wesleyan ministers. This gentleman was more than once married, his last wife being the daughter of Mr. John Wood, of Northcave, Beverley, Yorkshire. This lady was the mother of Mr. William Wood Stamp, and from her he doubtless received that sound training in the principle of Methodism which has served to distinguish his career. It was in the school of which his father was the principal that Mr. Stamp received his early education, where, we believe, he was the companion of many who have since held very high and honourable positions; and, after spending some three or four years there, was removed to prosecute those studies in chemistry and anatomy which were necessary for the profession it had been intended he should follow. It was during his apprenticeship that Mr. Stamp first felt that desire to become a preacher which indicated to him the work he has since spent his life in promoting. Having made known his impressions to the Rev. John Gaultier (a name well known and deeply venerated by the Wesleyans), the young minister delivered his first sermon in a very humble room, hired by the Wesleyan Methodists of a poor woman who gained her living by "mangling."



THE REV. WILLIAM WOOD STAMP, PRESIDENT OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST SOCIETY.
(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY EASTHAM AND BASSANO.)

In this place, which was situated near Lincoln's-inn, in a locality named "Narrow Wall," the President, after the manner of many since celebrated preachers, began his public ministry. In 1823 Mr. Stamp, after undergoing the usual examinations, was accepted as a "probationer;" he was then twenty-two years old, and in 1827 he was fully ordained, soon afterwards becoming the superintendent of a circuit, and having the care of several important Methodist stations.

The practical intellect of Mr. Stamp has been of great service to the body with which he is connected, since he has been particularly successful in developing plans by which the debts hanging over various chapels have been liquidated, and in the position which he now occupies, his sagacity and experience, united (we believe) with a still vigorous constitution, will find a sphere of usefulness where they will do the cause good service. Mr. Stamp's literary productions, at least those with which his name is connected, are not numerous. Perhaps the most interesting of them are "A History of Methodism in Bradford" (his native place), and "A Memoir of the Rev. John Cross, Vicar of Bradford," one of the clergymen favourable to the Wesleyan tenets. As a preacher Mr. Stamp is clear, logical, and judicious, being esteemed highly by his hearers for the soundness of his views, as well for the character which he so long and honourably sustained.

The portrait which accompanies this sketch is taken from a photograph by Messrs. Eastham and Bassano, of Regent-street, who have undertaken to execute portraits of the principal Wesleyan ministers.

THE ROYAL LIBRARY OF BERLIN has just purchased the whole of the music left by M. Fischhoff, late professor at the Conservatoire at Vienna. This collection is composed of 3978 pieces; by the best ancient and modern composers.

MR. DISRAELI AND SERGEANT BRODIE.

In one of her Majesty's regiments of cavalry an appointment was held some time since by a certain Alexander Brodie. He was a Sergeant, and skilled also in saddlery. Sergeant Brodie was dismissed the service in connection with a certain duel, and afterwards preferred to the Weedon establishment in his old department of business. Unluckily, he was dismissed from this place also, and, as a good many people thought, without any fair reason. Had he been merely dismissed from a private establishment he might have whistled for sympathy; but the Weedon business was quite another kind of thing. It was a Government establishment, and in no very good odour. There had been a shocking escapade there, and rumours went that there was more behind the scenes, if the truth could be reached. Accordingly, a commission was sent down to inquire; and it was just before that epoch that Sergeant-Saddler Brodie received his congé. This made him not only a martyr, but a political martyr; and, as the Weedon inquiry was in everybody's mouth, Alexander Brodie secured his share of the notoriety—in short, he became known to Mr. Disraeli.

On the evening of the 14th of April, 1859, Mr. Donald Nicoll, ex-M.P. for Frome, was standing in the central hall of the House of Commons, when he observed Mr. Disraeli, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, in company with Alexander Brodie, and apparently in conversation with him. They walked together towards the library, and presently afterwards Brodie returned alone, bearing in his hand an envelope, with the stamped seal of the House of Commons' library upon it. He approached Mr. Nicoll and showed him this piece of paper, and Mr. Nicoll remarked that it bore the address, in ink scarcely dry, of "Mr. Rose, Victoria-street, Westminster." Brodie then begged the favour of a little private talk with him, and professed to betray the secrets of his recent conversation. According to these revelations the Chancellor of the Exchequer had requested to know from Alexander Brodie in what place he could be useful to the Conservative party at the approaching elections, to which Mr. Brodie replied that he had relations at Berwick, and was acquainted with the frailer section of the constituency at Frome. The Minister further expressed his wish, in strict confidence, that Mr. Vernon Smith and others of Lord Palmerston's friends should be attacked in a debating club at Wyld's Reading-rooms; all which information, despite Mr. Disraeli's injunctions to secrecy, was instantly imparted to Mr. Donald Nicoll by the disappointed or treacherous Brodie. At a later period even the fatal envelope itself, the corpus delicti, with the Minister's own handwriting upon it, was handed over to Mr. Nicoll. To be sure, it was empty, but there it was still, a kind of tangible muniment, and, indeed, the only one in the transaction; and with this piece of reality Mr. Nicoll appeared before the Berwick Election Commissioners, in obedience to summons, and delivered himself of the story above related.

However, a day or two afterwards Mr. Earle, who had himself been elected for Berwick, and who was Mr. Disraeli's private secretary to boot, appeared in the witness-box and gave another version of the affair. Certainly Mr. Disraeli had spoken to Brodie in the House of Commons, and certainly the address upon the envelope was in Mr. Disraeli's handwriting; but the matter was simply the charitable end of a charitable acquaintance. Brodie had been recommended to Mr. Disraeli as a man with a grievance, and, though such introductions are not commonly desirable, a grievance is now and then of use to a party. So the Conservative leader took up the unlucky saddler's case, and did everything, in short, except see him or get him a place. See him he could not, because he was so very busy, and getting him anything was even more difficult; for when his qualifications came to be scrutinized the reports of his sanity were of a dubious character. But, though Mr. Disraeli's porter did not let Brodie in, this protection was lost when the Minister walked out. Brodie "dodged" him, lay in ambush for him, accosted him, and carried him off captive. It was in one of these predicaments that Mr. Disraeli incautiously put his hand to an envelope. Brodie had got hold of him, and was armed with a case which the Minister could not altogether repudiate. He had sympathised with the man; he had owned to thinking him ill-used; he had actually tried to do something for him, but had failed; and here was his client altogether stranded and positively in want. Couldn't Mr. Disraeli get him, at any rate, some employment at the elections, or what not? Well, perhaps Mr. Disraeli could do as much, and, as the applicant stood out for a written introduction, Mr. Disraeli gave him one to Mr. Rose—a communication which Mr. Disraeli assures us might, as far as any mystery or mischief was concerned, "have been read out at Charing-cross." But Brodie sees Mr. Nicoll in the hall, and, as Mr. Nicoll has been a friend of his, he seeks a second string to his bow by the disclosures described.

"As regards the substance of all this story," says the *Times*, "we can only suggest that, if there is anything to be ascertained, it had clearly better be learnt at first hand from Mr. Disraeli or from Brodie, and not gathered at second hand from Mr. Nicoll, who himself seems to be less impressed with the truth of the tale now than he was sixteen months ago. We also think that if the letter were produced, instead of the envelope, it would be better evidence of the writer's intentions. But the most obvious and unquestionable moral is for statesmen only. It is better not to make awkward acquaintances. It is safer not to permit street conversations or accidental meetings. Perhaps it would be too hard to say that Ministers should go about in shotproof chariots, like Louis Philippe; but Mr. Disraeli is not the only statesman of his party who has lately had to regret a walk down to Westminster. Your true boro is an exceedingly resolute animal, and there is no warrant, we believe, for giving such characters into custody. Finally, it is plain that pen and ink are dangerous instruments in such cases. Even an empty envelope can be represented as something 'in black and white,' for nobody knows what it contained. In this case we believe it contained nothing at all; but while there are Jobsons, and Irwins, and Brodies in the world a Minister cannot be too sparing in his use of pen and paper, or too careful as to those whom he permits to intrude upon his privacy."

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF THE RIFLE, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST AND MOST APPROVED SYSTEMS. (Concluded from page 108.)

THE PROPER CARE OF THE RIFLE.

THE rifleman cannot bear too constantly in mind the fact that, no matter what his skill as a marksman may be, it goes for nothing if the interior of the barrel of his weapon is not kept in perfect order. If rust be allowed to accumulate in the barrel a resistance will be offered to the passage of the bullet which will inevitably cause it to jerk on leaving the muzzle; and the possibility may be that it will pass out of the rifle without having imparted to it the rotatory motion which is essential to the accuracy of its flight. Besides, a rusty barrel is difficult to load, and a true expansion of the bullet is out of the question. Therefore, although it is necessary at all times to look well to the barrel, by proving it with a bit of clean rag or tow, to ascertain its internal condition, it should be more particularly well cleaned after firing. The residue of the powder after one shot, if left in for a day, will cause a permanent injury to the barrel by honeycombing it, so rapid is the corrosive action of the fouling on the metal. If an opportunity for doing so should be afforded it should be cleaned before leaving the ground. The proper way to clean a rifle is as follows:—Place the rifle at full cock, and take out the rod; put a piece of rag or tow in the jag, and twist it round so that it will not become separated from it, and that it will, at the same time, cover the head of the rod, like the top of a painter's rest-stick. Then, holding the rifle in the left hand, with the forefinger and thumb in line with the muzzle and at the full extent of the arm, the barrel downwards, place the heel of the butt on the ground, at such an angle that the water, when poured in, will not, while running from the nipple-hole, get into the lock. Pour in clean water until the barrel is full, but not overflowing, and work your ramrod up and down. Repeat the dose of water until it runs quite clean from the nipple. If attainable, pour boiling water after this into the barrel, which, by drying off rapidly, leaves the inside free from damp. If you cannot have this, it must be wiped carefully with a dry rag until no particle of damp remains; after which wipe it well out with an oiled rag. Then put in the muzzle-stopper, and place the snapcap on the nipple. It may be as well to remind the young rifleman that he should never leave his rifle without the stopper and snapcap unless he is actually using his weapon for the purpose of firing. Should he require to remove the stopper in learning the platoon exercise, it should, immediately he has concluded, be replaced. Before using the rifle the barrel must be well wiped out, even though apparently clean, with first an oil rag, and then a dry rag to remove the oil, and the nipple should be blown into to ascertain that it is free. When a rifle has been a good deal used the nipple-hole is liable to become enlarged, and the increased escape of the gases is apt to injure the lock. If, therefore, the rifleman has not himself sufficient mechanical experience, he should have it examined from time to time by a gunmaker, or, if a Government rifle, by the sergeant-armourer. In the regular Army the price charged, according to the War Office regulations, would be for a new nipple and fitting sixpence. Whether volunteers will be permitted to participate in the advantages of the authorised military scale of charges is a question which we believe has not yet been canvassed. As it is impossible, even with the greatest care, to prevent moisture insinuating itself between the bands and the barrel, and even into the breech, it is as well once or twice in the season to give the rifle a thorough inspection, and for this purpose it requires to be dismounted, which is done in the following manner.—Put the stopper into the muzzle of the barrel, and take out the ramrod; pull the lock up to the half cock, and take it off, holding the rifle at the same time horizontally in the left hand with the lock downwards. The side nails are then unscrewed, and if the lock should stick it may be slightly tapped on the head of the side nails, so that it will fall into the left hand. The muzzle is then placed on the ground, with the stopper in it, the barrel upright towards the body, and the breech-nail is partly unscrewed. The position of the rifle is then reversed by having the butt placed on the ground, the barrel perpendicular and towards the body; and should the rifle be fitted with spring bands (which, by the way, are ought of fashion at present, although many of the Government rifles served out both to the volunteers and the regular Army have them still), the springs are pressed with the two forefingers of the left hand and with the forefinger and thumb of the right hand. Then the bands are slipped over the springs, and taken off the barrel. Should the barrel be fitted with screwbands, the barrel is turned to the front, and the bands unscrewed just sufficiently to allow them to be taken off the rifle with the left hand. The rifle is again reversed by placing the muzzle on the ground, and the breech-nail is taken out, after which the muzzle is taken hold of with the right hand, and lifted gently out of the stock. Should, however, the barrel not leave the stock readily, the rifle may be held by the stock in a slanting position, the barrel under, and the left hand at the full extent of the arm, and the heel of the butt may be tapped gently on the ground, just sufficient to start the tang of the breech-pin from the wood. When all the parts are well rubbed and oiled, and all the rust removed, it may be remounted. To do this the barrel should be put into its place in the stock, and the bands, if springbands, slipped over the springs. The breech is next screwed into its place, but not quite home; the hammer is pulled up to the half bent, and put on the lock; the side nails and breech nails are screwed home; the ramrod put in, the lock eased, and the rifle is again complete. We have already given directions for dismounting, cleaning, and remounting the lock.

Many rifleman who have provided their own arms have been at a deal of trouble in having the stocks French-polished. We, too, were at first led away by the vanity of the times, and had our favourite rifle prepared after that fashion, and we now pronounce most decidedly against it. The weapon will not be in use for a day before the varnish becomes so obviously dented and scratched that it looks anything but well; besides which a French-polished rifle, being a thing inadmissible in the regular Army, is decidedly unsoldierlike. Now, by proceeding patiently and gradually, not grudging a little elbow-grease from time to time, a gloss almost equal to varnish, and having the advantage of permanency, may be attained. The best mode of procedure is to begin with linseed oil. Soak the stock as long as it will imbibe it; then apply beeswax and rub well with a piece of cloth: the wax should be more especially applied round the lockplate, and between the stock and barrel, so as to exclude damp as far as possible.

JUDGING DISTANCE.

The rifleman, having by a course of target practice become a tolerable marksman at known or certain distances to be of any use in the field, must be in a position to ascertain with accuracy the distance between himself and any object at which he may wish to aim; and to effect this end the judging-distance, drill is considered a most important part of a soldier's education. The mode of instruction adopted in the Army is as follows:—The instructor, having caused a line of 300 yards to be measured, has it divided into equal parts of fifty yards each by perpendicular lines. At each of these points a soldier is placed standing at ease, and facing the squad under instruction. Each of these men are pointed out in turn to the recruits, and each is directed to observe particularly the appearance of the men at the several distances, to remark with what degree of distinctness they can see the different parts of his uniform and ornaments, what size he appears to be in comparison with their own raised hand, and so on. Thus the variety of vision in different men is made allowance for. The men, having carefully made a comparison of the figures at the several distances, are directed to observe the position of the sun, and the state of the atmosphere and background at the time, so that they may be enabled by degrees to make an estimate of the appearance of objects under different circumstances. When the recruits have been considered sufficiently exercised in making observations at known distances, squads are formed on different ground, and a man is sent out in front, who is marched diagonally from right to left by sound of bugle, sometimes at the double, to prevent the recruits counting his steps. This man halts occasionally at convenient distances within 300 yards, faces, and stands at ease. The squad is then ordered to observe carefully, and each soldier is called separately

to the front and questioned as to the distance at which the man has halted. Each man in turn then adjusts the sight of his rifle according to his own judgment. The squad then advances towards the man, the instructor placing himself in the centre and counting the paces aloud. The exact distance is, however, measured with a cord, two or three of which are carried in the rear for the purpose. Having been well exercised in judging-distance drill at 300 yards they go on increasing by fifty yards at a time to 600, and so on to the extreme range for which the rifle is sighted. The Government rifles are sighted for 900 yards, but they will carry a much longer distance.

In judging short distances not a great deal of either practice or quickness is necessary; but when the range exceeds 300 yards the difficulty begins. In short ranges, in addition to the comparative ease with which the distance may be calculated, a yard or two in error is not of such very great importance, because the elevation of the bullet being in ranges of 100 yards, or even 200, only a few inches, if a rifleman is a good shot, although he may not hit the part of a man that he intended, he will most likely hit him somewhere. But at long ranges—700, 800, and 900 yards, for instance—there are very few men ever attain to so great a degree of accuracy as to guess within half a dozen yards by the unaided judgment. To obviate this difficulty various contrivances have been suggested and adopted. Previously to the introduction of the long-range rifle the general mode of ascertaining the distance of troops was by a telescope having fine wires on a graduated scale over the glass, and marking the height of a cavalry or foot soldier at different distances. This mode, however, was not of a satisfactory character, as not only the scale was very minute, but the difficulty of holding the telescope with sufficient steadiness rendered it of very uncertain use. On the long-range rifle being introduced graduated scales and stadia were adopted. The former were plates of metal or ivory, with the scales engraved on the edges or marked by fine wire stretched across the openings in the plates, the scales representing the spaces covered by a cavalry or foot soldier at certain distances, when the plate was held at a fixed distance from the eye. This instrument being obviously imperfect, from the difficulty of accurately noticing the exact space which the object covered on the graduated scales, stadia came into use. This is an instrument composed of a metal plate, with an opening of a triangular form and a base of about half an inch, and having engraved on the sides the height which a cavalry or foot soldier would cover when the instrument was held at the regulated distance from the eye. But with this instrument also, from the minuteness of the opening which represented the longer range, it is extremely difficult to mark the exact point at which the opening is covered; and a very slight want of accuracy in fixing on such a point materially affects the accuracy of the estimate of distance. To diminish the difficulty in this respect an instrument was invented by a French corporal—"Stadia à Lunette du Caporal Malfait." It consists of two small tubes, one sliding in the other, there being at the end of the larger tube a glass, and at the other end of the smaller an opening, or slit, which covers the object. On the tube being opened out from the other to the proper distance, according to the range, a slit in the larger tube then shows the distance at which the object is, according to scales for cavalry or infantry. This instrument was also open to the objection urged against the stadia—namely, the minuteness of the space representing the object. In all the instruments we have already mentioned the great difficulty, in addition to their minuteness, was to hold them steady, and to get them at the proper distance from the eye; this latter, however, was met by having a string knotted at regular distances and fastened to the instrument: this could be held between the teeth while the stadia or scale was being held up.

The most simple and inexpensive instrument we have tried is one invented by Captain Rouse, of the 1st Surrey Rifles. By this instrument the object is represented on a scale which enables the distance to be ascertained with great accuracy. It can be held with perfect steadiness, while its simplicity and strength free it from liability to get out of order. It consists of a metal frame of about an eighth of an inch thick, an inch and a quarter wide externally, and three-quarters of an inch internally, two inches and a quarter high, and it has three stout wires across the opening, the space between the lowest wire and the next being 72 of an inch, or one hundredth part the height of a foot soldier from foot to top of cap; and the space between the lowest and the highest wire is the same proportion of the assumed height of a cavalry soldier. It is attached to an ordinary muzzle-stopper, so as to allow its insertion in a rifle. When used it is placed in the muzzle of a rifle, which is held perpendicularly, the butt resting on the ground, and it can thus be held with perfect steadiness. Another rifle is then placed at a certain distance in rear of it, the butt resting on a level with the first one; and on looking from the top of the muzzle of the second rifle the space between the wires of the instrument placed on the first is covered by the soldier whose distance is to be ascertained. In measuring the distance between the rifles, which is done by means of a measuring-tape, every yard represents 100.

In writing the present series of articles we have avoided, as much as possible, the technicalities of the drill; our object not being to enter on the province of the drill-sergeant—that department of the military art being so much better learned from demonstration than from lectures. Our intention was to put our readers in possession of what is not generally imparted by drill-instructors—to make them understand their weapon, its use, and its care. We have endeavoured to make the theory of the rifle as plain and easily understood as the nature of the subject would permit; and we flatter ourselves that, so far, we have succeeded. Rifleman cannot too highly estimate the value of being able to understand the why and the wherefore of what they do; for, although constant practice may enable a man to strike a target with tolerable accuracy, we have the testimony of the highest military authorities to the fact that "the best shots in a regiment are those men who make themselves masters of the theory as well as the practice of rifle-firing, and take a pleasure in keeping their arms in a clean and perfect state." We have it in contemplation, at a future period, to devote an article or two to volley-firing; but, as that does not properly come under the heading of our present series, we shall consider this the

CONCLUSION OF THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF THE RIFLE.

A CHAPTER OF HORRORS.

MURDERS, deaths, sentences, and executions have prevailed during the last week or two. Since the Walworth tragedy there have been no less than three others, more or less diabolical; and a man hanged at Warwick, and one at Carlisle—both for the murder of their sweethearts.

A most revolting murder took place on Saturday night in the Queen's Park, Edinburgh. A child named Elizabeth Slater, stated to have completed her eleventh year on the 1st instant, absconded from her uncle's house, taking with her a bundle containing a pair of boots and wearing apparel. Her motive for leaving home has not been explained, her friends asserting that no quarrel or misunderstanding of any kind had taken place. About nine o'clock the same night she was seen in the High-street with a soldier of the 13th Light Dragoons from Piershill Barracks. She was next seen, shortly after midnight, in the company of two dragoons, one of them a corporal. She was also seen, about two o'clock on Sunday morning, by the sentries on duty in the front of Holyrood Palace and at the south gate of the Palace Gardens; and lastly she was seen, in company of three soldiers, in the park behind the palace by a man whom she accosted and asked the road to Musselburgh. This man saw one of the soldiers striking her with his switch, which caused her to cry, and, supposing she wished to part company with them, he pointed out to her the way leading out of the park at Croft-an-ridge. She followed him for a short distance in the direction which he had indicated, but suddenly she turned again and rejoined the soldiers, and was seen to go away with them, taking one of them by the arm, and all of them proceeding towards that part of the park where the body was found. Blood was flowing from her ear, and a considerable quantity lay on the grass near her head. No blood was

seen on her hands, but her pocket appeared to have been rifled or searched by a bloody hand, as stains were seen around it, and a quantity of lace found in the pocket was smeared with blood, as if it had been pulled out with bloody fingers and then thrust back again. A piece of the lace was also picked up a few yards from the body. Whether any other assault was made on her person remains to be cleared up by the post-mortem examination. At two o'clock on Sunday the regiment was paraded at Piershill Barracks in presence of several witnesses who had seen the girl in the soldiers' company, but no one could be identified by them. Four men were at this time absent, and for these an immediate search was made throughout the town by the police, and between three and four o'clock two of the absentees were apprehended. One of them, named John Tanner, was identified as having been one of the dragoons seen in company of the deceased, and he has been committed for trial on the charge of murder; and the other, John Quin, who was not so identified, has been detained for further examination.

A widow, aged seventy, was last week brutally murdered at Stepney. Through the death of her husband, a dust-contractor and brickmaker, the deceased became possessed of an enormous amount of wealth—it is said more than a hundred thousand pounds—principally in house property, which was chiefly of the smaller kind, let at low weekly rentals, which necessitated the employment of several collectors. The deceased was herself, however, the chief collector. Her collecting-day was Monday, and she commenced operations from an early hour on the Monday morning, and frequently did not close her labours till nine or ten o'clock the same night. She was in the habit of wearing, tied round her waist, a strongly-made apron, like that of a toll-collector, in which she placed the silver and other coins as she collected them, and on Tuesday the money taken on the previous day was regularly deposited in the bank. On Monday week she went about collecting as usual, and was not afterwards seen alive. One of her agents, named Emms, sent his son, as far back as Tuesday morning week, for two brass taps for use as two of her houses. The boy called, and each day since Emms had repeatedly sent and called, but after various visits, and knocking on each occasion loudly, no one answered the door. Emms accordingly communicated the fact to the deceased's solicitor, who proceeded to the house in company with a police-constable of the K division.

On entering the premises the old woman was found lying on the floor of a room on the second floor, terribly injured about the head, probably with a hammer. The floor was besmeared with blood, and it is supposed that the deceased had been killed by some burglars who had entered the premises to get her cash, a large quantity of which she was known to keep at home. The deceased's boxes and drawers had, no doubt, been ransacked by the thieves, and a great amount of property had been removed.

It would appear that a short time before the murder the deceased had been engaged in showing specimens of paperhangings to some one, for in a corner were several bundles of rolls of room paper, while on the table in the front room a bundle had been opened, and some forty or fifty pieces lay partly unrolled.

The husband of the deceased has been dead about four years. The deceased, although of parsimonious habits, was very abstemious. She was too miserly to indulge in anything beyond actual necessities, and those of the most common quality, as she had often been seen purchasing small pieces of stale meat at the cheap butchers', and vegetables from the stalls at Mile-end-gate.

It is rumoured that the police have found some trace of the deceased's watch, which was missed by her relatives.

An inquest was held on Monday touching the murder of this woman, Mrs. Emslie. No important evidence was elicited from the various witnesses examined. There can be no doubt that the crime was committed by some such blunt, round weapon as a life-preserver or hammer-head; and medical evidence went to show that when discovered she had been dead three or four days. While searching among some firewood stored in the coal-cellar the police found the sum of £48. The Coroner's inquiry was adjourned.

The trial of Thomas Winslow for the murder of Mrs. Ann James by poison commenced on Tuesday, before Mr. Baron Martin, at the Crown Court, Liverpool. The particulars of this case have already appeared in this Journal. On the trial the following additional evidence was adduced:—

Eliza Brannan, servant to Mrs. James about two years ago, deposed that on one occasion the prisoner asked her if she would go to a doctor's shop in Dublin and get a half-crown's worth of antimony, and he would make her a present of £5. She asked him what he wanted with the poison. He said he wanted it to poison rats. He told her to send it to him from Dublin by the boat, and he would give her the £5 all the same.

Thomas Maguire, a newspaper-boy, slept at Mrs. James's for eighteen months. The prisoner told him on one occasion to go for a pennyworth of something for the dog; he could not tell what it was. He brought back a white powder. The white powder was given to the dog. About half an hour after prisoner said, "Go for the same again." He got some more, and gave it to the prisoner. The prisoner gave him the name of it. He had seen the prisoner "making bread and butter for the mistress," and take from his pocket a white powder in a paper, throw some on the bread before he buttered it, and put the paper in his pocket again. He had seen him do it several times. He had asked him once what it was, and the prisoner said it was "fine salt." He had seen him do this after January last, about three or four months ago.

Witnesses were called who proved that the medicine administered to the deceased contained no antimony, that a notice withdrawing the money of the deceased from the savings-bank found in her house was entirely in the prisoner's handwriting, and that she had £130 in the savings-bank. It was also proved that the prisoner had purchased for the deceased four gas company's shares, worth a little above £200. In May last he called at the company's office and stated that Mrs. James was desirous of having the shares put in his name. Mr. Millard told prisoner that the shares might pass to him either by transfer or by will, and referred him to Mr. Lloyd, the law-officer of the company. The prisoner on the 28th of May went to Mr. Lloyd's office to ask him to make a will for Mrs. James, who was dying. Every one left the room except himself and clerk and Mrs. James. He received Mrs. James's instructions. She appointed the prisoner her executor, and refused to appoint a second executor, as she said she placed every confidence in him. At the time she said, "As Winslow made the business, it is only right I should leave it to him." The will was put in and read, giving the furniture and goodwill of her house and business to the prisoner, subject to the maintenance of Henry Townsend, and dividing the residue of her property between her nephew, Martin Townsend; her niece, Jane Cafferata; and her niece's child.

Dr. John Edward had analysed the lungs, feces, &c., of deceased, and discovered antimony. Dr. Taylor had also submitted portions of the stomach to the usual tests, and discovered antimony in considerable quantities. It was Dr. Taylor's opinion that antimony had been administered to deceased in small quantities at intervals. She was suffering from a disease—cancer in the stomach—which must have terminated in death, and which would produce sickness and purging.

Mr. Digby Seymour defended the prisoner in a speech which occupied two hours and forty-five minutes in delivery.

The Judge, in summing up, told the jury that what they had to determine was, did the prisoner administer antimony found in the secretions of the deceased and in her body after death; whether that drug had accelerated her death, and whether the prisoner had administered it to the deceased in order to destroy her life.

At the conclusion of his Lordship's remarks the jury at once found a verdict of Not Guilty. The prisoner was very much excited. As soon as the verdict was pronounced he bowed and thanked his Lordship and the jury, and was immediately discharged.

Another child-murder has been committed at Frome. A full-grown male child was found floating in the river. Medical testimony proved that it had lived some hours after birth. Part of a staylace was found round the infant's throat, and it had evidently been strangled.

LAW AND CRIME.

It might require some long experience in newspaper reading to call to mind any period in which such a combination of horrors in the way of domestic crime ever filled the columns of our daily papers as at the present time. An ordinary newspaper of the day is a collection of histories as revolting as can be found even in a volume of "The Newgate Calendar." We start from the point of the non-discovery of the Road murder, and are glad to learn, for about the twentieth time, that the police confidently believe themselves to be upon the track of the assassin, but, from obvious motives, refrain from any expression as to the direction of their suspicions. Next appears a report of the removal to goal, followed by a furious mob, of Mr. Youngman, sentenced to death for deliberately, and in the dead of the night, murdering his sweetheart, mother, and brethren, for the chance of obtaining a hundred pounds. Mr. Youngman, with whom a portion of the public had the pleasure of an interview on the occasion of his trial, presents, as it must be pleasant to know, the personal appearance of an ordinary London blackguard, and of nothing more. He wears his black hair shortly cut, with the exception only of the long side-locks, which serve to point his class. His types may be picked out by the score in any low neighbourhood in London. His trial, notwithstanding the frightful and in some points disgusting nature of the evidence, was attended by several females who, from their costume, appeared to belong to the upper class. It is to be regretted that the names of these aristocratic disgraces to their sex are not known, in order that they may be published, after the manner of Court Circulars, as having attended Mr. Youngman's penultimate levee matinee.

Then we have an account of a frightful murder perpetrated on the body of a squalid, wealthy old woman at Stepney. The poor wretch was, it appears, in the receipt of about £10 000 per annum, rents accruing from about a thousand miserable tenements, of which her delightful occupation was to screw the weekly proceeds of the poverty-stricken tenants. She had a pretty taste in paperhangings this female Scrooge, and kept a large stock on hand; probably finding it cheaper to pick up such things at sales as ruinous sacrifices, and to pay jobbing labourers to cover the dismal walls of her property therewith, than to have the work performed in the ordinary way. After some years of lonely, penurious existence in a rickety tenement of her own, supporting nature by stale scraps of cheap meat known as "black-ornaments," the wretched creature is lost sight of for some days, and at last discovered dead and rotten, in her own room, with her skull smashed in by a life-preserver, and two rolls of her beloved paperhangings beneath her arm. People think that one of her tenants must have called upon her, under pretence of wanting some papering done, and have murdered the old, unprotected, uncared-for creature at an opportune moment. In this case, as in the first-named, the police confidently, &c., &c.; but from obvious motives refrain, &c., &c., and so on.

Then a paragraph tells us of the fate, at Edinburgh, of a girl, aged thirteen found murdered in the Queen's Park, adjoining Holyrood. She had been seen during the night in company with various soldiers of the 13th Light Dragoons, and in the morning was found bleeding, bruised, swollen, and dead. The most active exertions are said to be being made by the authorities "for the elucidation of the mystery," which is a phrase to which people are becoming accustomed. The next horror, headed "Another Murder at Frome," treats of the body of a fine, healthy, newly-born male child found floating in the river, quite dead, with a staylace tied tightly round its neck. In this case, also, "the police are actively investigating the matter." A gentleman is discovered lying in the public road having committed suicide by blowing off one side of his head, in a thoroughfare called Cut-throat-lane, at Putney. A case of poisoning by antimony furnishes materials for a trial of the accused at the Liverpool Assizes, which trial, after several days' duration, resulted in the acquittal of the prisoner. A woman appears at the Police Court, and is proved to have bitten off the nose of another female with whom she had been having a few words. A thief has been detected almost in the act of wrenching off the gas-burners in the taproom of a public-house. This thief, by abstracting the burner, for which at the utmost he could scarcely hope to gain twopenny, exposes the house and its inmates to an explosion as deadly as that of a shell in a bombardment. One such explosion in consequence of such a robbery has already taken place in the Caledonian-road, Islington, whereby several persons have been blinded for life, and otherwise injured. In the full knowledge of this result, and in the neighbourhood of the catastrophe, the thief is taken plying his demonic business. He is at present remanded, but will be committed for trial. At Carlisle a man has been hanged for cutting the throat of a woman with whom he had quarrelled. He cut her throat slightly first in his rage, and afterwards, on calm reflection, considering that the matter could not be worse, returned and completed the murder in cold blood. His execution was attended by a remarkably large proportion of children. At Warwick a scoundrel has been hanged for murdering his sweetheart, and confessed that he had on three previous occasions attempted the lives of that number of other girls on whom he had fixed his affections. At his execution, Jack Ketch, being in haste to catch the train, appears to have displayed some indecent haste, and was consequently waylaid at the railway station, knocked down and jumped upon, being only saved from being killed by the courageous efforts of a station-master. Such is the abstract and brief chronicle of English domestic occurrences in the way of law and crime for the week ending August 18, 1860.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—Ellen Goodwin, thirty-one, laundress, was indicted for attempting to commit self-murder.

A police-constable stated that on the afternoon of the 10th instant the prisoner, in a state of intoxication, went to the station-house in the Caledonian-road and broke a square of glass, worth 4s., the property of the Receiver of Police. For this offence he took her into custody and locked her up in the cell; but, on going into it about six o'clock, he found her with her bonnet-strings tied tightly round her neck, and there was no doubt that in a short time she would have been strangled if he had not gone in. She admitted that she had cut her throat three years before.

A police-sergeant said he was at the Caledonian-road station about nine months ago when prisoner was brought in on a charge of attempting to commit suicide by throwing herself into the Regent's Canal. About six months ago he was on duty at the same station-house, when the

prisoner was brought in on another charge; and on that occasion, on his going into the cell to see her, he found her with her bonnet-strings tied tightly round her neck for the purpose of committing strangulation. She had several times tried to destroy herself.

The jury found her Guilty.

Mr. Payne severely admonished her as to her conduct, and hoped, under the ministrations of the Chaplain, she would be led to see the wickedness of her conduct, and not again attempt the crime. He then sentenced her to be imprisoned for three months, with hard labour.

POLICE.

DARING CASES OF HOUSEBREAKING.—A COURAGEOUS SERVANT.—William Thompson, aged thirty-two, describing himself as a bricklayer, was charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt with breaking into the dwelling-house of Mr. E. Crabb, Belitha-villas, Barnsbury Park, and stealing therein a cloth coat and other articles; and, further, with assaulting Sarah Ann Williamson.

Sarah Williamson, who appeared in the witness-box with her face much bruised and a very bad black eye, said that she was servant to Mr. Crabb, and on Saturday morning, about half-past seven, as she was entering the drawing-room she saw prisoner on the ledge outside. At this time the window was partially open, and while she was standing there the prisoner pushed up the window and got into the room. She asked him what he wanted, and he replied, "I have come to clean the windows. Is it not right?" and she replied in the negative. The prisoner then told her to go and ask her master, which she refused to do, upon which prisoner struck her a violent blow on the face and gave her a black eye. The prisoner then took a great coat from the rail in the passage, but before she could stop him he opened the street-door and ran away, and she followed him. Prisoner then put the coat between some rails, and attempted again to strike her. She again got out of his way, and he ran off, followed by the witness, calling out "Stop thief!" He was stopped, and given into custody. The prisoner was very violent, struck a bystander, and endeavoured to escape. At the police-station the prisoner took from his pocket a handkerchief which belonged, he said, to the prosecutor. The prisoner, while in the dock, behaved in a very disgraceful manner, called the witnesses liars, threatened to do for them, and said he was guilty of stealing the coat, and should like the case, if the magistrate would be so obliging, settled at once.

Mr. D'Eyncourt committed the prisoner to the sessions for trial on his charge, and then heard the evidence in a second charge. A young woman named Fair said she was servant to Mr. Dobson, of Thornhill-square, Islington. Last Wednesday, about a quarter to eight in the morning, she saw prisoner in the parlour, and as soon as he saw her he got out of the window. She screamed for her master while prisoner was on the leads, and he threatened to knock her eyes out. She left the room, and upon her return she found the cruet-stand rolled up in a table-cover near the window. The cruet-stand before this was on the sideboard. She was quite sure the prisoner was the man.

The prisoner said it was all false, and he was not the man. A servant residing next door said she saw the prisoner get out of the window, but she thought nothing of it, as he was dressed as a workman. She also saw him attempt to get into the window, heard screams, and saw the prisoner run away. She was quite sure the prisoner was the man, as he was dressed in a painter's jacket.

The prisoner said he did not wish to ask the witnesses any questions. It was all a lie, and they knew it. Mr. D'Eyncourt said the prisoner would be committed for trial on the charge, but would be remanded until Thursday next, to see whether he had been previously convicted.

MR. HATTON AND HIS DEBTS OF HONOUR.—George Read, Esq., of Bushey Heath, Watford, appeared before Mr. Mansfield, charged with "unlawfully using abusive and insulting language towards John Hatton."

Mr. Hatton said he was a professor of music, and resided at 3, Goswell-street. On the 2nd instant the defendant met him in Belgrave-street, and called him a rogue, a blackguard, and a vagabond. He had before used this language to him, and the only reason he had for doing so was that he owed the defendant some money on horse-racing. The defendant had threatened to annoy him in every way he could.

The defendant said the complainant owed him £60, £30 of which he had paid in hard cash out of his pocket. The debt arose out of some horse-racing transactions. He had frequently asked complainant for payment, but was always met with some subterfuge. Some of his (the defendant's) friends had been served in the same manner as he had been. He (the defendant) had only been brought there that day for the purpose of annoyance, and to prevent him from being present at York races. The summons was not taken out until a fortnight after the words had been said; and this was done so that other persons present at the races should not see complainant at this court to-day. The fact was that he ought to have taken out the summons, for complainant called him a blackguard.

Mr. Mansfield said there was no reason why debts of honour should not be paid within twenty-four hours, and all persons who had not the means of so doing should not make bets. He could fully understand that Mr. Read was much irritated at not being paid, and as both the complainant and the defendant had used similar expressions to each other he should dismiss the summons.

ABDUCTION OF AN INFANT PHENOMENON.—Allen Johnson and Sarah Elliott were charged with decoying and carrying off a female child. Jane Smith, who, with her husband, is a professional singer, said that they had a daughter named Clara, the subject of the present prosecution, who, although a mere infant, was a talented singer, and a great favourite in concert-houses. About three weeks ago the female prisoner, whom she had known about twelve months, called at her house, and, after talking about different matters, suggested that a new silk sash of a particular description would much become the child, and said that with the mother's permission she would take the little girl with her and purchase it, and they left for that purpose, but never returned. The father of the girl proved that he had a particular engagement for her at a concert at Wandsworth on the night she was taken away, and the audience were consequently much disappointed. An inspector of the Portsmouth police, said that, in consequence of a description of the child and prisoners circulated through the *Hue and Cry*, he apprehended the male prisoner with the child on Friday week at Portsmouth. Another officer proved taking the female prisoner, who said she had made up her mind to send the child home by the guard of the railway directly she had the means. The child's father said that she earned a great deal of money, and he considered that as the prisoners were aware of that fact she had been carried off for the purposes of gain. Prisoners had suddenly left their lodgings when they obtained the child. They were remanded for a week.

SHOCKING CASE OF WIFE-BEATING.—John Berry, shoemaker, 36, Stephen-street, Lisson-grove, was charged with violently assaulting Sarah Berry, his wife.

The complainant, who had sustained several severe injuries, and whose head was strapped up with adhesive plaster, said that at about two o'clock the previous morning her husband came home drunk. He went to bed. While she was about getting into bed he suddenly jumped out, and commenced quarrelling with her. While doing so he took her three children out of bed and threw them on the floor. She begged him not to be so violent, upon which he struck her on the head with his fist. He next took up a poker to strike her with it, but she was unable to say, as she was almost in a state of insensibility, whether he struck her with it or not. She subsequently found that she was severely bruised on her head.

She begged of him to have mercy upon her, and called out "Murder!" A police constable came to her assistance.

In answer to the magistrate, complainant said that for a long period she had been subject to constant ill-usage from her husband, and she was frequently with black eyes.

Everest, 209 D, who took the prisoner into custody, said that he heard cries of "Murder!" at the house where the prisoner lived. He found the children crouched up in a corner of the room screaming loudly. He seized hold of the prisoner, who, upon his doing so, threatened to kill his wife if she appeared against him.

Mr. Secker read the prisoner a severe lecture upon his conduct, and sentenced him for six months to the House of Correction.

WORKING A HORSE TO THE LAST MOMENT.—John Lennon, labourer, of Mitcham, was charged with working a horse in a very shocking state.

As two officers to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals were passing Westminster-bridge they saw defendant with a heavily-laden cart, drawn by a horse which with much difficulty just succeeded in putting one foot before the other. On examining it they found both hind legs lame, and every portion of it covered with large sores; and defendant admitted that he had told his master, Mr. Briggs, of Mitcham, that it would be stopped by the society's officers. He also said that it was being worked to the last moment, and would then be killed.

Mr. Paynter said this was certainly a shocking case, and, as the accused had admitted, the poor animal was being worked till it should actually fall in the streets with wounds and exhaustion.

Defendant was then fined £3, and the horse and cart were detained till it should be paid.

COMING FROM THE RACES.—Algernon Greville, a Cornet in the 1st Regiment of Life Guards, was summoned at Marlborough-street for an assault on Mr. Smith, surveyor, of Bedford-row, and Mr. Irvine, solicitor, of Gray's-inn-square, under the following circumstances:—

The defendant was accommodated with a seat at the solicitors' table.

Mr. Sleight, for the prosecutors, informed the Court that this was a case arising out of the return from Egham races, and the assault complained of occurred in the Uxbridge-road. The two gentlemen for whom he appeared were riding in a Hansom cab, and the defendant appeared riding in a four-in-hand carriage coming in a contrary direction, apparently returning from the race-course. When within a few yards of the cab, he was seen to rise, and, poisoning himself, deliberately take aim at his clients.

In an instant a long wooden bodkin or pen case was propelled pointwise with great force towards them, and struck the cab, first grazing Mr. Smith's hat. Directly alighting from their cab, the gentlemen ran after the four-in-hand, and demanded an apology; but this was refused, and then, smarting, naturally, under the very unprovoked insult and assault committed, they asked defendant for his card, resolved, upon public grounds, to bring the matter before the Court. The defendant said if the gentleman would hand him a pencil he would write his name for him. He did so, and then, with a laugh and what is termed "chaff," invited his clients—the complainants—to settle the affair over a bottle of sherry, at his and his friends' barracks, which they indignantly declined. It was felt that a dangerous practical joke—if it might be termed so—had been put in practice; that the missile propelled, if it had struck the eye, might have destroyed the sight; and it was resolved to adopt the present proceedings and show the defendant and other larking young gentlemen that such conduct, on public grounds, should be punished.

Mr. Beadon observed that much had been said about "public grounds," and on public grounds he should deal with this case as he had always done, by inflicting such a fine as he thought would meet the justice of it. If injury had ensued he should have sent it to the Sessions; as it was, he should fine the defendant £5, or two months' imprisonment.

A SAD CASE.—On the 26th of March a young lad, named Francis Barnett, was taken into custody for felony by a City policeman, named Robert Meredith, and he was committed. As he was going down the steps leading from the justice-room to the cells, the constable being close behind him, he suddenly turned round and struck the officer a severe blow in the face, which had the effect of knocking him backwards, and his head came with great violence against a portion of the dock. He was picked up in a fainting state, and a surgeon was sent for, and when he had slightly recovered the charge of assault was gone into, and the prisoner was committed to take his trial at the Central Criminal Court, and, upon his being convicted, he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and then to be sent for three months to a reformatory school. It appears that the unfortunate constable has been getting worse ever since, and there is very little doubt that his brain is seriously injured, and he has never since been able to do any duty.

An inspector belonging to the City police stated these facts to the Lord Mayor, and said that from what he heard he believed the constable would not survive the injuries, and that it was considered the only chance he had was to go into the country and have some fresh air, and he applied to his Lordship to render him some assistance from the poor-box to enable him to do so. The constable had received his pay as usual, but he was unable to bear the extra expense of going into the country. He had been ten years in the City police, and was a very good officer.

His Lordship directed one of the clerks of the court to hand the inspector two sovereigns for the use of the poor fellow.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.

BANKRUPTS.—W. SMITH and W. F. PATIENT, Bermondsey New-road, Surrey tanners.—T. MILES, Great James-street, Lisson-grove, leather seller.—A. SMITH, Andover-road, Hornsey-road, builder.—R. STEWARD, Great Yarmouth, carpenter.—J. C. WAGSTON, Watling-street, City, and Chancery-lane, Blackfriars-road, shirt dresser.—G. S. HUSKARD, Aldersbury, warehouseman.—G. WIGGLESWORTH, Richardson-street, Bermondsey, leather dresser.—J. HALL, Oxford, builder.—J. DATES, Gresham House, Old Broad-street, and Dewsbury, Yorkshire merchant.—S. ROOSES, Carnaby-street, Regent-street, licensed victualler.—C. S. DAVIS, Goswell-street, and Stratford, Essex, bookbinder.—C. BARNARD, Broadwood-place, Dalton, shoe manufacturer.—F. C. PERRY, Roughwood Colliery and Furnaces, and Ryecroft Colliery, near Walsall; and Hallfield's Furnace, near Bilston, Staffordshire; and Stockport, Cheshire, ironmaster.—M. CASTWRIGHT, Longton and Snyrcliffe, Staffordshire dealer in pottery materials.—T. and R. MILLS, Deroy, grocers.—J. BUSTON, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, brick manufacturer.—G. HYNDER, Swansea, Glamorganshire, brewer.—K. LINDRICK, Bolton, Gloucestershire, miller.—J. S. LOFFHOUS, Liverpool, licensed victualler.—J. BELL and G. WILSON, Bradford, Yorkshire, stuff merchants.—H. KIRKWOOD and J. SHAW, Kingston-upon-Thames, proprietors.—JAMES MCNEILY and JOHN MCNEILY, Ashton-under-Lyne, joiners.—F. A. GROSS, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, furniture dealer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—T. KIRKLAND, Falkirk, draper. J. CLARK, Taychrean, Ayrshire, innkeeper.—J. H. BACALY, Outinville near Paisley, calico printer.—D. COOL, Glasgow, pawnbroker.—G. PORTER and J. GARRIE, Edinburgh; and J. KAY, Warrle, near Edinburgh, upholsterers.—K. HOLT, Glasgow, merchant.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21.

BANKRUPTS.—J. HYMAN, Spencer-street, Clerkenwell, watch manufacturer.—F. and J. ANDER, Luton, Bedfordshire, straw plait merchants.—D. TIEBLES, Houghton Regis and Luton, Bedfordshire, straw plait dealer.—J. CHADWICK, Willington-wharf, Regent Park, straw merchant.—H. C. HAYLOCK, Linton, Cambridgeshire, apothecary.—J. F. KIDGELL, Philip-lane, City, merchant.—A. GOSSE, Gutter-lane, City, silk warehouseman.—H. HASTON, Fen-church-street, City, merchant.—W. DICKINS, Daventry, Northamptonshire, shoe manufacturer.—D. T. McPHERSON, Noble-street, City, straw hat dealer.—J. CLARK, Kidderminster and Bewdley, Worcestershire, hatter.—J. BELL and G. WILSON, Bradford, Yorkshire, stuff merchants.—J. M. ARNOLD, Dewsbury, Yorkshire, innkeeper.—W. M. TOWSON, Liverpool, licensed victualler.—J. WILSON, Sunderland, boot and shoemaker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—R. WRIGHTMAN, Crosslaw, Berwickshire, farmer.—A. AITKEN, Glasgow, tea merchant.—D. MORT, Outinville near Paisley, calico printer.—D. COOL, Glasgow, pawnbroker.—G. PORTER and J. GARRIE, Edinburgh; and J. KAY, Warrle, near Edinburgh, upholsterers.—K. HOLT, Glasgow, merchant.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

Owing to the continuance of unfavourable weather for harvest operations the upward movement in the value of grain, and the prospect of heavy shipments of bullion to pay for foreign corn, more than usual caution has been shown this week in making investments in Home Securities. We have, however, very little change to notice in the prices of Consols for Money, have been done at 91 3/4 for the account, 91 to 91 1/4. The Reduced and New Three per Cent. have realised 94 1/4; Exchequer Bills, 14 to 14 1/2, prem.; Long Annuities 1885, 104; Bank Stock, 23 1/2 to 23 3/4. In loan securities have moved off slowly, at about previous quotations. India Stock, 116 1/4; Ditto, New, 103 1/4; Five per Cent. Raffle Paper, 95 to 95 1/4; Debentures, 95 1/4; and Bonds, 45 to 55 discount.

There has been a fair demand for money for discount purposes, and the rates, generally, have been well supported. The supply of capital is abundant; but holders generally, make advances with extreme caution, and are not disposed to let the best paper is now taken by the bankers. The following are the rates current in the private market:—

Short bills	4 per cent.
Three months' bills	4 1/4 to 4 1/2
Six months' bills	4 1/2 to 4 3/4

On the Continent money is very abundant, and in fair request, at all prices. The backward state of the crops in France and the north of Europe has given rise to serious apprehensions as regards the wheat.

Several parcels of gold have come in from Australia and the United States; but nearly the whole of them have been absorbed for the Continent.

Compared with last week the transactions in Foreign Bonds have not increased. The market for them, however, continues steady, and prices, generally, are well maintained. Dutch Two and a Half per Cent. have realised 65 1/4; Dutch Four per Cent., 102 1/4; Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cent. 87 1/4; Mexican Three per Cent. 20 1/4; Russian Five per Cent. 107 1/4; Russian Four and a Half per Cent. 84 1/4; Sardinian Five per Cent. 82 1/4; Spanish Three per Cent. 48 1/4; New, New, 103 1/4; Ditto, Certificates, 52 1/4; Turkish Six per Cent. 75 1/4; Ditto, New, 60 1/4; and Turkish Four per Cent. 101 1/4.

A fair amount of business has been passing in Joint-stock Bank Shares, and the quotations, generally, have shown considerable activity. Bank of Egypt have marked 20 1/2 ex div.; Bank of Turkey, 12 1/2; Bank of North America, 5 1/2; Red Sea and India, 10 1/2; London Joint Stock, 24 1/2; London and South African, 14 1/2; London and Westminster, 18 1/2; Oriental, 43 1/2; Ottoman, 18 1/2; Union of Australia, 42 1/2; and Union of London, 24 1/2. The market for Colonial Government Securities has ruled firm, as follows:—Canada Six per Cent. January and July, 114 1/2; Ditto, 5 per Cent. 113 1/2; Ditto, 1880, 113 1/2; Ditto Five per Cent., 101 1/2; New South Wales Five per Cent. 1888 and upwards, 99 1/2; and Victoria Six per Cent. 109 1/2.

In the Miscellaneous Market the dealings have been much restricted. General Steam have been done at 25 1/2; Great Ship, Seventeen and a Half per Cent. January and July, 114 1/2; Ditto, 5 per Cent. 113 1/2; Ditto, 1880, 113 1/2; Ditto Five per Cent., 101 1/2; New South Wales Five per Cent. 1888 and upwards, 99 1/2; and Victoria Six per Cent. 109 1/2.

On the whole, a fair business has been transacted in the Railway Share Market. Prices have continued to rise, but, compared with last week, no change of importance has taken place in them.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Only limited supplies of English wheat have been offered this week. The arrivals from Essex have been taken off somewhat freely, at 2s. per quarter more money; but in the value of those from Kent no change has taken place. Floating supplies of foreign wheat are not numerous. There has been a steady sale for barley, and, in some instances, the quotations have shown an upward tendency. Fine malt has sold steadily, other kinds slowly, on former terms. Good and fine oats have produced 6d. per quarter more money. In the value of inferior parcels no change has taken place. Both beans and peas have commanded extreme rates, and country flour has been held for 1s. per 28 lb. advance.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, 60s. to 61s.; ditto, white, 55s. to 65s.; grinding barley, 27s. to 28s.; distilling ditto, 28s. to 31s.; malt, 30s. to 35s.; rye, 30s. to 31s.; malt, 45s. to 48s.; feed oats, 20s. to 24s.; potato ditto, 27s. to 30s.; tick beans, 40s. to 45s.; grey peas, 30s. to 35s.; ditto, 40s. to 45s.; per quarter. Town-made flour, 50s. to 51s.; country marks, 39s. to 42s.; town households, 47s. per 28 lb.

CATTLE.—The supplies of fat stock on offer this week have been moderately extensive. Generally speaking the trade has ruled somewhat heavy, and prices have shown a drooping tendency. Beef, from 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; pork, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 3s. 12d.; pork, 4s. to 4s. 8d.; to sink the offal.

NEWCASTLE AND LEEDS.—Generally speaking, the trade has ruled in a sluggish state. In prices, however, no change of importance has taken place. Beef from 2s. 10d. to 3s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; lamb, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 4s. to 4s. 8d.; per 28 lb. by the carcass.

TEA.—The public sales held since our last report have gone off slowly, at about previous rates. Privately the demand is somewhat restricted, at 1s. 4d. per lb. for common sorts. Congee, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; lamb, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 4s. to 4s. 8d.; per 28 lb. by the carcass.

SCOTCH.—Generally speaking, the demand for raw sugar is much restricted. In prices, however, very little change has taken place. Refined goods are dull, at 50s. per cwt. for common brown lumps. Crushed and pieces rule about stationary.

COCOA.—Prices have had a drooping tendency; but, on the whole, a fair amount of business is doing.

RICES.—Large quantities continue to change hands, with a good speculative demand owing to a further rise in the value of wheat. Provisions.—The butte market, generally, is heavy, and prices have given way 2s. to 4s. per cwt. Bacon, hams, and lard are quite as dear as last week; but other provisions are a slow inquiry.

METALS.—There is a moderate demand for Scotch pig iron, at 51s. 6d. cash, mixed numbers. Manganese ore, in request, at 12s. 6d. per ton. Spelter, on the spot, is selling at 40s. 10d. 6d. per ton. Tin is steady, at 131s. for Straits, and 116s. for Banca. All other metals support previous rates except copper, which has given way 4d. per lb.

SPICES.—Bunches are offered freely, at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. for proof East India, and 1s. 5d. to 1s. 7d. for Leeward. Brandy is selling at 8s. to 11s.; Hambro' spirit, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.; English, 2s. to 2s. 1d.; an English gin, for export, 2s. 9d. to 3s. per gallon.

HOPS.—A further advance of from 5s. to 10s. per cwt. has taken place in the quotations, with a very firm market. The duty is only 2s. 6d. per cwt.

POTATOES.—The supplies are large, and the demand is steady, at from 80s. to 130s. per ton.

OLIVE OIL.—Lined oil is firm, at 30s. 9d. to 31s. per cwt. Sperm is worth 110s. to 110 1/2; pale southern, 114s.; pale seal, 115s.; and cod, 116s. 6d. per cwt. Tallow is in active, and prices have a drooping tendency. P.Y.C. on the spot, is selling at 5s. 3d. per cwt. The stock is 38 916 casks, against 21,940 ditto in 1859, and 11,539 in 1858. Rough fat, 3s. 9d. per 28 lb.

FLORAL HALL, COVENT-GARDEN.—Last Week but One of Alfred Mellon's Concerts.—Band and Chorus of the Royal Italian Opera, Miss Parepa, and Mr. Wylie Cooper, every evening.

Rifle Volunteer Night.—Monday, On Monday, August 27, the Concert will be under the distinguished patronage of the officers and members of several of the metropolitan Rifle Volunteer Corps.

The programme will include a new Volunteer Song, "Let every man join heart and soul," composed for this occasion by Alfred Mellon, and sung by Mr. Wylie Cooper, 38th Middlesex (Arifist) Corps, J. K. C. New Rifle Corps, &c., &c.

Conductor, Alfred Mellon, 38th Middlesex (Arifist) Corps, V. R. C. Promenade, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d.; Stalls, 5s.; Boxes (to hold four persons), 11s. 6d. Commence at Eight. No charge for booking places.

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